BARODA.
ADMINISTRATION
REPORT
1907-08.

00135068

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BARODA

ADMINISTRATION REPORT,

1907-08.

135068

By

KERSASP RUSTAMJI DADACHANJI, M.A., LL.B.,

Minister of Baroda.

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HUZUR CUTCHERY,

Baroda, 28th February 1909.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I beg to submit herewith the following account of the administration of your State for the year ending 31st July 1908.

This is the last Report that I shall submit to your Highness, and it is to me a matter of sincere satisfaction that I am able to record herein—what has now been a common feature of the administration—steady progress and efficiency in existing Departments, careful recruitment of, and infusion of new blood into, the service and the creation of new institutions and spheres of administrative activity—all due to your personal interest and care and the energy, capacity and devotion of your many enlightened and public-spirited servants.

The previous years laid the foundations of popular political institutions such as village and local Boards and self-governing Municipalities and of a large and beneficent industrial and agricultural policy. The year under report has witnessed their development. In the case of the former the coping stone has been laid in the establishment of the Legislative Council, which, if restricted in certain particulars, is endowed with potentialities of administrative power which differentiate it from similar institutions elsewhere. As regards the latter a Bank on modern lines and a successful Tramway in the Capital of the Dominion, with projects for Railways under construction or in contemplation calculated to cost about 50 lacs of Rupees, and schemes for roads have furnished and will furnish in the near future, the requisite facilities and conveniences for industry and commerce. The mineral wealth, necessarily limited in a flat country like ours,

is attracting attention and once more a Geological Expert is traversing the territory to explore its hidden resources—building stones, marble and metals, possibly even much coveted gold.

Irrigation works and schemes, steadily pursued and executed and agricultural education and experiments and the diffusion of agricultural information are supplying aids and stimulus to the most important industry of the land, *viz.*, agriculture. The revision of survey settlements of which a new feature is the duplication of the period of 15 years fixed for their currency at the original settlements is carefully adjusting the Revenue demands on the cultivators to the character of the soil, their paying capacity and new economic conditions and is dealing fairly with that toughest of problems—water assessment—while due provision for remissions on occasions when remissions may become imperative is being thoughtfully made.

Education is developing generally and specially on the scientific and technical sides and your Highness' cherished scheme of compulsory education is fast coming up to your expectations.

The retrospect of the year's work which I now submit will, I feel assured, carry to your Highness a feeling of satisfaction, and one can confidently hope that the future of the State is destined to be still more bright and satisfactory. May it prosper more and more is the earnest wish and prayer of your retiring Minister and

Faithful Servant,
KERSASP RUSTAMJEE.

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I.—GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

(*a*)—The State of Baroda.

Area and Population.—The State of Baroda, as stated in previous Reports, is divided into four distinct blocks quite apart from each other. The Southern District of Naosari lies near the mouth of the Tapti river and is surrounded mostly by British territory. To the North of the Narbada river is the Central District of Baroda in which the Capital City is situated. Further up, and to the North of Ahmedabad, lies the District of Kadi, with several historic towns and important industries. And far to the West, in the Peninsula of Kathiawar, lie the tracts of land, isolated and separated from each other, which comprise the District of Amreli. The area of the State in round numbers is eight thousand square miles, and the population is about two millions.

Over three-fourths of this population, or 1,546,992, are Hindus. The Musalmans number 165,014 or less than one-tenth of the population. Tribes or Castes, low in civilization, and returned as "Animistic," number 176,250, and the Jains are 48,290 in number. There are also 8,409 Parsees or Zoroastrians and 7,691 Christians.

According to the Census of 1901, the population may be further classed thus according to occupation :—

Government Service	4·1	per cent.
Pasture and Agriculture	51·14	„
Personal Services	4·98	„
Suppliers of Materials	14·2	„
Commerce and Storage	3·5	„
Professions	2·86	„
Unskilled Non-agricultural Labour	13·34	„
Independent of Occupation	2·87	„

(*b*)—The Central Administration.

The Minister.—Mr. Kersasp Rustamji continued as Minister.

The Amatya.—Mr. R. C. Dutt, went on leave on the 10th July 1907, and having been subsequently appointed a member of the Royal Decentralization Commission, his leave was extended to the end of December 1908. No acting arrangements were made during his absence. The Dewan looked after the work of the Amatya.

The Council.—The council consisting of the principal officers of the State under the Presidentship of the Minister, as mentioned in previous Reports, continued to transact all the important business of the State during His Highness' absence in Europe, as well as after his return to India. It held 51 ordinary and 4 special meetings and disposed of 386 matters, referring 116 for His Highness' orders as lying beyond its powers. Its business was conducted smoothly and carefully, and the regularity of its meetings resulted in expeditious disposal and ensured that there were no arrears.

(*c*)—Palace.

The following were the most notable events of the year in connection with His Highness' household :—

(1) The removal of the State Throne (Gadi) and Gods from the Old Palace in the City to the Lakshmi Vilas Palace and Indumati Mehal respectively took place on the 2nd of November 1907 with due pomp and necessary religious ceremony.

(2) Rajkumar Dhairya Sheel Rao was sent to Europe with Mr. R. R. Shirgaoker for study in the month of September, and Rajkumar Shiwaji Rao passed his Previous Examination in the month of November from the Deccan College.

(3) The 29th of June witnessed the birth of the first son to the Heir Apparent Yuvaraj Fattehsinh Rao.

Inaugural ceremonies were performed by His Highness the Maharaja in the case of the following industrial concerns on the 20th February 1908 and the 14th June following :—

A cotton mill newly erected by Rao Bahadur Hargovindas Dwarkadas Katawala, late Director of Vernacular Instruction of the State.

A Tramway line from the B. B. & C. I. Railway station, Baroda to Panigate along Raopura road, the first Tramcar being run by His Highness the Maharaja.

On the 46th anniversary of His Highness the Maharaja's birthday, the 23rd March 1908, in addition to the usual ceremonies and distribution of food and clothing to the poor, medals and dress of honour were presented to the following persons for their useful and meritorious services to the public :—

(1) To Shethani Chunibai, widow of Shet Gokaldas Dolatram of Visnagar, a gold medal for opening a charitable dispensary.

(2) To Parekh Javerbhai Laxmichandwala and Parekh Narayenbhai Keshavlal, silver medals, the former for conducting a mill as a private enterprise, and the latter for starting and conducting a Dyeing Factory.

Shrimant Sampatrao Gaikwad held the office of the Khangi Karbhari throughout the year.

Among eminent personages who visited Baroda during the year under report may be mentioned :—

H. E. the Governor of Bombay, Their Highnesses the Nabab and Begum Saheb of Janjira and His Highness the Maharaja of Idar.

The expenditure of the Khangi Department during the last two years is shown in the following table :—

Item.	1906-1907.			1907-1908.		Total.
	Chargeable to Khangi Proper.	Chargeable to Darbar.	Total.	Chargeable to Khangi proper.	Chargeable to Darbar.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Household	4,22,463 14 11	2,36,406 8 7	6,58,870 7 6	4,98,786 4 5	2,22,167 0 1	7,20,953 4 6
Karakhanas	2,03,626 4 8	3,24,356 11 11	5,27,983 0 7	2,71,424 5 2	3,79,876 3 10	6,51,300 9 0
Donations	37,814 3 6	.....	37,814 3 6	58,161 4 6	.....	58,161 4 6
Miscellaneous	2,790 6 7	77,367 6 2	80,157 12 9	.....	25,673 1 9	25,673 1 9
Total ...	6,66,694 13 8	6,39,130 10 8	13,04,825 8 4	8,28,371 14 1	6,27,706 5 8	14,56,088 3 9

During the year under report, His Highness paid visits to foreign parts and made a tour in the Naosari District. A short account of these visits may not be found uninteresting.

In the commencement of the official year His Highness went to Bhor, at the invitation of the ruling chief and stayed there for two days. His Highness met with very cordial reception and every arrangement suitable to his position and dignity was made by the hospitable host and nothing was omitted to make him comfortable. A little business was combined with relaxation. The Bhor Municipality gave an address which elicited a reply, and a speech on the duties of Teachers and Students delivered during a visit to the High School of the town was much appreciated and applauded.

An invitation was also received in the beginning of April from the Maharajah of Rewah to visit his Capital and shoot big game in his preserves.

It was thankfully accepted and availed of. Needless to say that the arrangements were perfect and the ingrained and traditional courtesy and hospitality which mark the whole of the noble and justly venerated race of Rajput Rulers in this country were fully exhibited. Her Highness the Maharani accompanied the Maharajah and both together accounted for 4 tigers and 3 tigresses, a goodly bag sufficient to satisfy the sporting spirit. The Maharajah of Rewah placed them under special obligations on account of his personal exertions, guidance and direction in the matter of the "Shikar," and lavish and truly princely was the manner in which the comforts of his guests were provided for. Not the least conspicuous features of the whole arrangements were the thoughtful organization and agreeable regularity brought to bear upon them.

Ill health compelled a short change to Matheran in the month of December, and in that and in the following

months occurred the visits to Baroda of Miss Clarke and His Excellency Sir George S. Clarke, Governor of Bombay, who left on the people the most agreeable impressions.

As a visit to some parts of the dominions in the course of every year is imposed voluntarily as a duty upon himself by His Highness, he proceeded to Naosari, to ascertain local conditions and satisfy local grievances and requirements. The people of the town accorded him a hearty reception as a long interval had elapsed since his last visit. There were the usual Municipal and Board's addresses and visits to schools and other institutions where suitable speeches were delivered encouraging people to interest themselves in and advance education of every kind, industrial progress and social reform. They were exhorted to take special interest in the experiment of local self-goverment now being tried, and to make it a success, and they were complimented upon the zeal and public spirit they and their leaders displayed in the matter of education.

The general administrative work of the district was enquired into and important orders regularizing work and correcting abuses were issued. Dewan Bahadur Samarth was in attendance all the while and both as Sir Suba and acting Dewan brought to notice the state of work and the wants of the district especially in the matter of roads, tanks and other public works. Comprehensive memoranda were drawn up by him and suitable orders after due investigation and consideration were passed by His Highness.

From Naosari excursions were made to Bilimora and Gandevi. The Sayaji Chocolate Factory conducted by Mr. Madhavrao Narayan Godbole was visited and people were admitted to interviews with a view to ascertain shortcomings and wants and personal or general grievances.

The whole visit occupied 15 days.

(*d*)—Relations with the British Government.

There was nothing remarkable to note as regards the relations between this State and the neighbouring British Districts and Native States. These relations were, in the year under report, as cordial and satisfactory as before.

No case of Mail robbery occurred in these territories.

Arrangements relating to the mutual extradition of criminals and co-operation in Police matters between His Highness' Government and the neighbouring British Districts and Native States continued satisfactorily as before.

The requisite facilities were given to the Imperial Postal Department to open additional Post Offices and Letter Boxes in all the Districts of the State. The working of the Post Offices continued satisfactory.

The acknowledgments of His Highness' Government are due to the Government of India and to the Government of Bombay for their courtesy—

A In permitting—

(1) The State Sanitary Commissioner to visit the Animal Vaccine Depôt at Belgam for the purpose of studying the method of manufacturing glycerinated vaccine with a view to its vaccinators to visit the same Institution to receive training in the use of the preserved Lymph,

(2) Certain Medical Officers and Hospital Assistants of this State to receive a course of instruction in the practical working of the X Ray apparatus at Dehra Dun,

(3) The State Legal Remembrancer to visit the Head-quarters of the Bombay and Bengal Governments with a view to observe the working of the Legislative Departments and of the Legislative Councils in those places,

(4) An L.C.E. to receive training in Geological work under the auspices of the Director of Geological Survey, Calcutta,

(5) An Agricultural Graduate to receive instruction in Entomology at Pusa for a period of six months, and

(B) In placing at the disposal of His Highness' Government the services of Mr. M. Visvesvaraiya, M.I.C.E., Sanitary Engineer to the Government of Bombay, for the purpose of suggesting sanitary and structural improvements in the Countess of Dufferin Hospital so as to make it an up-to-date Institution.

During the year under advertence, an arrangement was come to regarding the reciprocal free service of summonses between His Highness' Government and the States under the Bhopavar Agency.

With a view to facilitate the administration of justice an arrangement was arrived at between His Highness' Government and all the States and Talookas in Kattywar and the Kattywar Agency for giving intimation reciprocally to witnesses residing in one jurisdiction, of dates fixed for their appearance in the Courts of the other to give evidence in Judicial cases.

It was ruled by the Government of India that the special procedure under which the Mul Girassias of the Amreli Division are entitled to invoke the aid of Political Officers in connection with their claims against His Highness' Government, did not apply to cases between the Girassias *inter se.*

The Government of India acquiesced in the proposal of His Highness' Government to levy local cess at the rate of

one anna in the Rupee on the full assessment according to survey and settlement rates on the lands held by the Mul Girassias of Amreli.

With the approval of the Government of India a reciprocal arrangement was arrived at as a tentative measure for a period of three years, between the Police of this State and of the Bombay Presidency for the provisional surrender, for purposes of identification, of stolen property or property seized on suspicion.

The arrangement made in 1905 regarding direct correspondence in the matter of the service of Summonses on witnesses, concerned in purely civil or criminal proceedings, between the Courts of the Palanpur Agency including Native States and those of the Baroda State, having been found to have worked satisfactorily, it was decided to continue the same in future.

Similarly, the arrangement arrived at in 1906 with respect to direct correspondence in certain important Police matters between the State Police and those of the Bombay Presidency was extended to the Bombay City Police and also to the Police of the three Native States under the Surat Agency, *viz.*, Dharampur, Bansda and Sachin.

An arrangement was also entered into for carrying on direct correspondence, in matters of "hue and cry" as well as in certain other Police matters, between Baroda Police Officers and those of the Guzerat and Kattywar Political Agencies.

With the concurrence of the B. B. & C. I. Railway authorities, it has been decided to levy Income Tax from the Railway employés on His Highness the Gaekwar's Railways and those employed on Railways traversing Baroda territory.

During the year under retrospect, an arrangement was come to with respect to the execution in British India of decrees passed by the Civil Courts of the Baroda State as if they were passed by the Courts of British India and *vice versa*.

Mr. Laxmilal Dowlatrai continued to be in charge of the Huzur English Office, *i.e.*, of Political correspondence, and performed his duties with his usual tact, ability and care, which are the natural outcome of his long experience and training under successive Ministers and habits of steady application to work and close study of whatever political questions come before him.

II.—THE ARMY.

The strength of the Regular Force at the close of the year 1907-08, as compared with the fixed strength, was as follows :—

Description of Force.	Fixed Strength.			Actual Strength.		
	Effective.	Non-effective.	Total.	Effective.	Non-effective.	Total.
Artillery.						
Light Field Battery ...	94	66	160	90	35	125
Total ...	94	66	160	90	35	125
Cavalry.						
The Motikhas Paga ...	455	24	479	307	18	325
The Chhotikhas Paga ...	455	24	479	449	24	473
The Fateh Singh Rao Regiment	455	24	479	444	24	468
The Guards	135	10	145	127	13	140
Total ...	1,500	82	1,582	1,327	79	1,406
Infantry.						
1st Regiment	698	29	727	784	36	820
2nd „	698	49	747	862	39	901
3rd „	698	29	727	865	39	904
4th „	514	27	541	Amalgamated with the rest.		
Okha Battalion	461	14	475	461	14	475
Total ...	3,069	148	3,217	2,972	128	3,100
The Band	111	6	117	90	8	98
General and Staff Officers.	6	2	8	4	0	4
Grand Total ...	4,780	304	5,084	4,483	250	4,733

The cost of maintaining the above force during the year under review is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Band.	General and Staff Officers.	Medical Establishment.	Veterinary Establishment.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1907-08.	35,951	5,80,386	4,58,283	25,198	30,666	11,745	5,210	11,47,439

It will be seen from this statement that the Regular Forces cost the State nearly eleven lacs and-a-half during the year under report as against Rs. 10,98,283 in the previous year. The increase is mainly attributable to the salaries of the men in the ranks having been raised on the auspicious occasion of His Highness' Silver Jubilee and to the grain compensation allowance granted to men drawing Rs. 10 and under per mensem.

The average annual cost per effective man in the Artillery was Rs. 288, in the Cavalry Rs. 413, in the Infantry Rs. 148, and in the Band Rs. 257, or, taking the whole Force together, the average cost per effective man was Rs. 277 or about Rs. 23 a month.

The total fixed strength of the Irregular Force during the year under review was as follows:—

Horse.

Shilledars.	Shibundi.	Paga Nihaya.	Khalsa.	Total.
908	333	182	577	2,000

Foot.

Shibundi.	Khalsa.	Total.
1,139	667	1,806

The expenditure incurred on account of the Irregular Force is shown below :—

Horse.	Foot.	Other Establishment.	Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4,75,051	4,514	30,477	5,10,042

Last year the expenditure was Rs. 5,78,108. The decrease is due to the reduction of allowances in the case of Sirdars and Shilledars, &c., at the time of succession and to the disbandment of the transport corps.

The average annual cost of each man in the Irregular Force was Rs. 861.

Taking the Regular and Irregular Forces together the total cost is as follows :—

Regular.	Irregular.	Pension and Gratuity.	Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
11,47,439	5,10,042	63,566	17,21,047

A sum of Rs. 4,09,849 paid on account of the annual contingent commutation money to the British Government is also debited to the Military Department. The grand total of the expenditure in the Military Department during the year under report was therefore Rs. 21,30,896.

Considering the strength of the Army, the number of defaults and the nature of punishment awarded to defaulters, it appears that the general efficiency and discipline of the Army were very satisfactory. The general health of the Army was also good.

General Gordon has submitted an elaborate report suggesting certain Military and Administrative Reforms which is receiving attention from Government.

During the year under report General Gordon continued to act as Senapati and General Commanding the Baroda Army and Captain Madhaorao Bajee acted as Infantry Colonel and Captain Janardan Sadashiv Colonel of the Cavalry and Artillery Brigades.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

(*a*)—History and Procedure.

The history of the Legislative Department generally, and more particularly of its reconstruction, has been narrated in previous reports. As remarked in those reports the legal affairs of Government are watched and directed by the Naib Dewan with the designation of Legal Remembrancer. Mr. Manubhai N. Mehta, M.A., LL.B., who held the charge of this important office during the year under review, performed its duties with his usual diligence and ability. Besides the work of Legislation, the Legal Remembrancer has to supervise and control civil and criminal litigation involving public interests. In this latter work he is assisted by Government Pleaders attached to the different Courts, who numbered 36 as in the preceding year. Most of these Pleaders are Law Graduates and receive monthly salaries varying from Rs. 100 to Rs. 350. Their main duty is to conduct civil and criminal cases on behalf of Government and guide the District Officers in matters requiring legal advice and professional assistance.

(*b*)—Legislative Acts.

In the matter of legislation during the period under review, the Department published 11 Acts and 31 sets of Rules for the several Departments of the State. Among the Acts three were amending measures, one a consolidating Act, and the rest independently dealt with some very important subjects, such as Electricity, Irrigation Canals, Income Tax and Mining.

The Electricity Act, which was primarily designed to facilitate the work of the P. W. Department in laying down electric lines between the two palaces of Laxmi Villas and Makarpura, will now be of general use both to Government and the public at large for purposes of electric lighting and

management of electric-power concerns. The Irrigation Act was passed at the instance of the Irrigation Department which is of late busy with Irrigation Schemes to provide certain means to cultivators for combating years of drought and scarcity and for improving the productive capacity of the soil in ordinary years. The Income Tax Act has grouped together in a suitable form the several existing regulations on the subject and embodies the principles to be applied in the assessment and the collection of the tax. The Mining Act has been introduced with a view to attract and develop enterprise in mineral productions and lays down reasonable rules for the prospecting and exploration of mines and minerals in the country. A fair number of applications for the purpose has been received and duly disposed of.

The consolidating measure referred to was the revised Stamp Act. It effects some useful changes, such as reducing the duty imposed on conveyances, preventing the evasion of duty on sales and other alienations and dispensing with fines in connection with the recovery of stamp dues on certain insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents discovered by Government officers during their inspection of accounts.

Of the amending Acts, the Civil Procedure Code Amending Act may be particularly mentioned. It materially changes the prevalent law which practically forbade suits against Government, with certain indispensable reservations. The general prohibition against such suits altogether disappears and Government and its officers are under the same liability to be sued civilly as any private individual. This is a privilege which will be much valued by the people, and it has been at the same time a satisfaction to Government to have made this concession to popular liberty.

One more Enactment is deserving of special notice. It is one of a series of social measures lately undertaken by His Highness—measures which whatever their reception in the

first instance may have been, have eventually proved acceptable to his subjects. The Enactment empowers people to contract marriages under contractual forms unfettered by any conscientious scruples or conventional formalities. The step taken will, it is deemed, be recognised as making for the amelioration of the social condition of our people.

Of the rules referred to above, two may be specially noticed :—

(1) Rules to validate some of the social customs of the Halari Kunbi caste of Amreli. (2) The Legislative Council Rules. The former are again a piece of social legislation undertaken at the request of the Kunbies themselves who, it seems, are gratified therewith. In the Rules, provision is made for the recognition of their caste rules as well as for the enforcement through official agency of the caste decrees pronounced there. The object is effected by constituting Village and Taluka Panchayets with power to enforce these rules and to get them amended if and where necessary, and to impose, and recover penalties prescribed thereunder.

The Panchas are to be elected by the castemen themselves and the Panchayets so formed are to decide all questions affecting the social usages of the caste as recognised by these Rules. The Panchayets have also been invested with control over the caste funds which can be utilized for any charitable purpose or object beneficial to the caste or the country or during years of draught for certain precautionary measures that may be adopted to mitigate its rigour. Besides in order to limit extravagance in expenditure the rules further regulate the number and cost of observances in regard to betrothals, marriages and obsequies and fix certain fees for levy on these different occasions. The fees thus levied together with all fines and penalties realized by the Panchayets go to swell the funds under their control. An attempt is also made to alleviate the lot of the women of this caste by defining the

circumstances and the Procedure under which divorce can be obtained and remarriage allowed as well as alimony can be claimed. Lastly, the Subha of Amreli is made the referee in matters of dispute between the castemen and the Panchayets and has to exercise general supervision over the working of these rules and touch upon them in his annual report.

The Legislative Council Rules mark an epoch in the legislative annals of the State. To advise His Highness' Government in the arduous task of legislation, a Council is created whose constitution is characterized by a marked proportion of popular representation—a proportion which may at any time be developed into a clear preponderance over the official one. The total number of Councillors is fixed at 17. The official element is made up of four *ex-officio* members and an equal number of other officers appointed by Government from time to time. Among the *ex-officio* members are the Minister as President, the Sar Subha or Revenue Commissioner, the Legal Remembrancer and the Head of the Department in charge of the Bill. Of the remaining members six are taken from amongst representatives chosen by the several District Local Boards and three are nominated by Government to represent interests that are otherwise unrepresented. The Council has had two sittings during the course of the year, one on the 5th of March and the other on the 25th of June 1908, and its members have evinced a warm interest and zeal in loyally co-operating with Government to supply the Legislative requirements of the State and its people. In the former session the Council approved Private Estates Management Bill and referred to a select committee the Bill to amend our Court of Wards Act; while in the latter session it discussed and approved the Bill regarding a Hindu son's liability for ancestral debts and the amending Bill just mentioned. It resolved at the same time to hand over to a select committee the Encumbered Estates Bill.

Of the Bills pending final enactment at the close of the year, mention may be made of (1) a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure and (2) a Bill to authorize the constitution and maintenance of Tramways. The former Bill has recently been sanctioned by His Highness.

It has effected several important changes in the existing Code by investing certain Magistrates with wider powers of trial, simplifying the procedure about summary trials, permitting the infliction of concurrent sentences, providing for the punishment of contempts out of Court and meting out more liberal and indulgent treatment to first offenders.

As remarked in previous reports the Legal Remembrancer has to watch the operation of the Early Marriage Prevention Act and report the results from time to time. During this year it appears to have worked quite as well as in previous years, but the indulgence hitherto shown by Courts in their treatment of applications for exemption from the Act has not abated. The reason for this apparently undue sympathy even after a period of more than three years is not quite clear. There is no justification for it and it is high time our Courts gave up mistaken notions of leniency and bore in mind the salutary object of the Act and the evil it is designed to cure.

This year the number of applications for exemption was 1,001 as against 583 last year, out of which only 39 were rejected. The abnormal increase was due to the year being one preceding the current Sinhasth year, in which according to Hindu notions the celebration of marriages is avoided as being inauspicious.

In its penal aspect it is satisfactory to note that the operation of the Act does not disclose the same leniency on the part of the Courts. The percentage of convictions has risen from 74 to 86½, though the severity of punishments appears

to have somewhat slackened as the percentage of fines imposed above Rs. 10 fell from 16 to 11.

The following table classifies the number of persons convicted according to their castes :—

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Kunbis.	Bhils and Kolis.	Artisan Classes.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Mahomedans.	Others.
1907-08 ...	197	61	479	468	325	561	146	730
1906-07 ...	54	20	381	329	188	362	62	462
1905-06 ...	58	58	281	228	166	277	53	317

The rise in the number of transgressions is accounted for by an increase in the number of marriages as explained in the preceding paragraph.

IV.—JUDICIAL.

(*a*)—PERSONNEL.

Mr. Vasudev Gopal Bhandarkar, B.A., LL.B., continued as Chief Justice during the year under report. Mr. Abbas S. Tyabji, Barrister-at-Law, was the Second Judge, and Mr. Krishnarao Vinayak Sarangpani, B.A., LL.B., held the post of the Third Judge. The administrative work of the Department was done by the Third Judge under the supervision of the Chief Justice in more important matters. As in previous years their judicial work was marked by learning and carefulness, and gave general satisfaction.

The work of the District and Assistant Judges has been found to be satisfactory. Among other Judicial Officers, the following have been specially brought to notice by the Department :—

1. Khan Bahadur Merwanji Edalji Dadachanji, First Class Chief Magistrate, Baroda City.
2. Rao Saheb Rupshankar Morarji Dholakia, First Class Magistrate, Amreli.
3. Khan Saheb Ratanji Dosabhai Master, Mahal Nyayadhish, Pattan.

(*b*)—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Number of Courts.

Varisht Court	1
District Judges' Courts	4
Assistant Judges' Courts	4
District Magistrates' Courts	4
Subordinate Judges' Courts	21
Ex-Officio Revenue Magistrates' Courts ...	100
Ordinary Magistrates' Courts	28
Village Munsiffs' Courts	5
Other Officers invested with civil powers ...	10

The work performed by the Civil Courts, in their original Jurisdiction, during the year under report is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Filed.	Disposed of, including pending cases.
1906-07 ...	15,252	15,870
1907-08 ...	13,955	14,516

The number of suits pending at the end of 1907-08 was 2,855 against 3,181 in the preceding year, of which 222 cases were more than one year old against 185 in the previous year. This shows that there is a decrease in the file and disposal of cases ; but there has not been a corresponding decrease in arrears or in old contested suits. However the decrease in disposal is more than counter-balanced by a greater disposal of criminal cases. It is also due to the fact that the Subordinate Judicial Courts had to be worked by many inexperienced officers owing to the retirement of some old hands and the transfers of others. The decrease in the file is due to the institution of conciliators and to a succession of bad years.

Classifying the civil suits, which are divisible into ordinary civil suits and small cause suits, according to subject matter, their percentages stand as under :—

Ordinary Suits.	Percentage in		Small Causes Suits.	Percentage in	
	1906-07.	1907-08.		1906-07.	1907-08.
Relating to money matters	77	73	Relating to contracts ...	99	98
Relating to immoveable property	21	23	Relating to damages ...	·4	·3
Relating to other matters	2	4	Relating to the recovery of possession or the value of moveable property	·6	1·7

Both these kinds of civil suits are dealt with separately below :—

Ordinary Civil Suits.

Year.	Cases filed.	Valuation in Rs.	Disposed of, including old pending cases.	Average duration of contested cases. (Days.)	Pending at the end of the year.
1906-07 ...	5,795	19,49,097	6,183	153	1,936
1907-08 ...	5,400	23,80,855	5,735	202*	1,803

* 317, in suits decided by District Judges.
188, in suits decided by Sub-Judges.

There is an increase of 51 days in the average duration of ordinary cases. This is due to the reasons indicated above *viz.*, the disposal of 1,500 criminal cases in excess of those disposed of last year, which as a rule obtain precedence over civil cases and the employment of new Sub-Judges. However as remarked in previous Reports, the average duration of such suits should not exceed 180 days and it is trusted, the Department will continue to exercise strict supervision over the work of its subordinates. Suits of more than one year's standing that remained pending at the close of 1907-08 were 218 against 182 at the end of the preceding year.

Small Cause Suits.

Year.	Filed.	Valuation in Rs.	Disposed of, including old pending cases.	Average duration of contested cases. (Days.)	Pending at the end of the year.
1906-07 ...	9,457	6,79,316	9,687	87	1,245
1907-08 ...	8,555	5,65,250	8,781	82	1,052

It is satisfactory to note that, though there is not an appreciable decrease in the number of pending cases, yet the average duration of contested small cause cases has been more than maintained below the standard of three months fixed for them. The decrease in file has been explained above and the disposal, though less than that of the last year, exceeds the file by more than two hundred cases.

File and Disposal of Darkhasts.

Year.	Filed.	Disposed of, including pending Darkhasts.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration.
1906-07	17,447	17,447	6,153	119
1907-08	14,949	16,531	4,577	99

There is a falling off in the file and in consequence in the disposal also. The relative proportion between the two is much higher however in the year under report, which is a commendable feature, while the average duration of the Darkhasts shows a satisfactory improvement. Of the Darkhasts that remained pending at the close of the year, 1,226 were of more than one year's standing against 1,340 in the preceding year.

The following table shows the modes of disposal of the Darkhasts:—

Year.	Stayed at the request of parties.	Struck off the file.	Dealt with by Rajinamas, compromise, &c.	Satisfied by actual execution.
1906-07	26 per cent.	36 per cent.	20 per cent.	18 per cent.
1907-08	18 „	30 „	30 „	22 „

The percentage of Darkhasts in which satisfaction was obtained by actual execution has increased by 4 per cent. and may be noted with interest as indicating the result of the special steps taken by the Department in accordance with the suggestions made in the last year's report.

The following table shows the various processes resorted to in order to effect satisfaction of the Darkhasts in which the aid of the Courts was solicited :—

Ways in which satisfaction was obtained.	Percentage in Darkhasts of ordinary suits.		Percentage in Darkhasts of small cause suits.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Satisfaction obtained by payment of money ...	36	48	73	87
Do. do. by delivery of possession...	18	14	2	·2
Do. do. by selling immoveable property	35	28	...	...
Do. do. by selling moveable property	7	5	18	10
Do. do. by imprisonment of judgment-debtors	1	1	2	·7
Do. do. by giving periodical instalments	3	4	5	2·1

The results attained are fairly satisfactory in view of the fact that the percentage of serial No. 1 has risen and those of Nos. 2, 3 and 4 have gone down and show that the debtors were able to meet the demands made upon them more easily.

Civil Appeals.

Year.	Filed.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposed of, including old pending appeals.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration.	
					Contested appeals.	Other appeals.
1906-07...	1,201	4,25,989	1,281	1,151	323	140
1907-08...	1,371	4,44,978	1,486	1,071	270	158

It is gratifying to note that the Appellate Courts have, besides successfully coping with the larger file and reducing the arrears, also brought down the average duration of contested appeals by nearly 2 months. This gratifying result is due to a better system of work on the part of the Appellate Courts. The slight increase in the average duration of non-contested appeals needs no remarks.

Results of Civil Appeals.

Year.	First Appeals decided by Varisht Court.			Second Appeals decided by Varisht Court.			Appeals decided by District Courts.		
	Percentages confirmed.	Percentages reversed or remanded.	Percentages modified.	Percentages confirmed.	Percentages reversed or remanded.	Percentages modified.	Percentages confirmed.	Percentages reversed or remanded.	Percentages modified.
1906-07...	54	28	18	62	25	13	53	26	21
1907-08...	73	20	7	79	14	7	58	27	15

The improvement in the quality of work indicated by the high percentages of confirmation in the first and second appeals disposed of by the Varisht Court is satisfactory. Similarly the percentage of confirmation in appeals disposed of by the District Judges also indicates improvement.

Village Munsiffs' Courts.

Of the five Village Munsiffs' Courts, those at Sariyad and Ranuj had no work during the year under review. The remaining three Courts at Bhadran, Vaso, and Khari Vavadi have worked satisfactorily as will appear from the following table :—

Year.	Number of suits.	Valuation of suits.	Average duration of suits.
		Rs.	
1906-07	164	4,564	13 days.
1907-08	131	4,465	14 do.

There is a decrease in the file, although one more Court was working during the year under report. It is due to the same causes that led to a decrease in the file of the ordinary tribunals.

The Conciliators' Institution.

This system was in force during the year under report at 11 places in the State including the Baroda City. There were in all 117 Panchas, of whom 108 found work varying in amount. The state of their file and disposal was as under :—

Districts.	1906-07.			1907-08.		
	File.	Disposal.	Arrears.	File.	Disposal.	Arrears.
Baroda City	4,683	3,462	1,221	2,906	3,833	294
Baroda District						
Kadi Do.	3,336	3,158	178	2,336	2,390	124
Naosari Do.	31	31	...	26	26	...
Amreli Do.	369	291	78	178	237	19
Total ...	8,419	6,942	1,477	5,446	6,486	437

These figures show that even the cases before the Panchas share in the general falling off of original litigation. The Panchas, however, have disposed of a large number of arrears and have brought down the average duration of a case from 44 to 18 days. They disposed of 93·6 per cent. of the cases before them, the last year's percentage being 83.

This is a satisfactory result of the efforts of Government to interest people in their own concerns.

Possessory Suits.

The file and disposal of Possessory Suits was as under :—

Year.	Suits for disposal.	Suits disposed off.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration.
1906-07 ...	732	648	84	40
1907-08 ...	584	503	81	29

It is a matter for satisfaction that the average duration has gone down from 40 days to a month. The decrease in the disposal is due to the decrease in the file.

Criminal Cases.

Year.	Filed.	Disposed off, including old pending cases.	Average duration of cases (Days).	Average duration of summary cases (Days).
1906-07 ...	10,254	10,706	9	5
1907-08 ...	12,071	12,287	8	4

It is satisfactory to note that there is a further reduction of a day each in the average duration of both kinds of cases, and that the number of cases disposed of exceeds that of the last year by 1,500. The number of persons whose cases were disposed of was 28,061 against 24,479 in the preceding year, indicating that there was an average of slightly over two accused persons to each case.

The total number of witnesses examined in the year under report was 20,823 against 17,600 in the preceding year.

Percentages of different classes of offences.

Year.	Against property.	Against person.	Against public justice.	Against tranquillity.	Against marriage.	False documents.	Against coinage.	Against public servants.	Other offences.
1906-07...	28·77	30·27	·89	4·25	3·71	·52	·11	·63	30·85
1907-08...	34·92	29	·51	3·48	2·37	·37	·07	·31	28·85

In both years over one-half the offences were against property or against person. The more serious cases in the year under report consisted of 42 cases of murder, 27 of culpable homicide, 202 of grievous hurt, 24 of rape, 42 of dacoity, 180 of robbery, 294 of house-breaking and theft and 45 of forgery. The figures under the corresponding heads in the preceding year were 38, 37, 154, 30, 22, 203, 199 and 46. A comparison between the two years shows some increase in the offences of murder, grievous hurt, dacoity, house-breaking and theft and a decrease in those of culpable homicide, rape, robbery and forgery. The causes that led to the increase in the number of violent crimes will be explained in the chapter dealing with the Police.

On the whole the paucity of crimes among the people of this State is very marked as remarked in previous reports.

Percentage of Conviction.

Year.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
1906-07 ...	40·5	59·5
1907-08 ...	43·43	57

These figures show a fair increase in the number of convictions and to that extent more care and intelligence in the process of committal on the part of the Police.

Punishments.

Year.	Capital sentence.	Fines only.	Imprisonment with or without fines.	Imprisonment with whipping.	Whipping only.	Order to furnish security.
1906-07 ...	1	3,669	1,195	1	23	5
1907-08 ...	1	4,641	1,321	1	35	4

Of the persons convicted 5,708 were males and 297 were females. Last year the figures were respectively 4,617 and 277.

Criminal Appeals.

Year.	Filed and old pending appeals.	Disposed of.	Percentage of persons whose sentences were confirmed.	Percentage of persons whose sentences were modified.	Percentage of retrials, &c.
1906-07 ...	493	441	63	11	26
1907-08 ...	459	417	59	13	28

There is a decrease both in the number of disposals as well as in the percentage of confirmation. The former is due to a decrease in the file while the latter shows that there is room for improvement in the work of the lower Judiciary.

Inamdars' Work.

The number of Inamdars invested with criminal powers was 23 at the close of the year under report, against the same number in the preceding year. Of these only three against one in the preceding year tried and disposed of 9 criminal cases.

The number of persons involved in these cases was 17 of whom 8 were convicted, 5 acquitted, while the remaining 4 were let off under Rajinamas. Last year there were 11 cases involving 18 accused persons, all of whom were fined.

Extradition Cases.

Year.	Surrendered to Baroda.		Surrendered by Baroda.	
	Cases.	Men.	Cases.	Men.
1906-07	123	201	80	154
1907-08	148	306	110	201

These figures show that there is an appreciable increase in the demands of extradition made and received by His Highness' Government during the year under report. Out of the demands made by Baroda 5 had to be withdrawn while out of those received by it 3 had to be withdrawn by the British authorities. During the year under report out of 288 extradited persons (including 39 that had remained to be tried at the end of the last year) 138 were convicted and 123 acquitted or discharged in 139 cases and 27 persons remained to be tried in seven cases. The percentage of conviction during the year was 53 against 61 in the preceding year.

Pleaders and Mukhtyars.

The number of Pleaders and Mukhtyars in the several Courts of the State was 365 at the close of the year under report. Thirteen special sanands granted to pleaders in the British Courts were renewed for a period of two years and 14 permanent sanands were given to new pleaders during the year under report. Of the total number of pleaders 4 were Barristers-at-Law, 40 L.L.B.s ; 1 High Court pleader, 13 District pleaders, and the remaining 307 had either passed the Local Pleader's or Mukhtyar's examinations.

(c)—Income and Expenditure.

The total receipts of the Civil and Criminal Courts from Stamps, Court-fees and other items during the year under Report and the preceding year were as under :—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1906-07	2,77,343	3,78,590
1907-08	3,07,941	3,88,110

Both the income and expenditure show an increase of Rs. 30,597 and 9,520 respectively. The increase in income is due to the increase in the valuation of suits and appeals. The increase in expenditure is due to the fact that the monthly salary of Rs. 800 paid to Mr. Waghojirao Kuverji Raje Shirke is ordered to be debited to this Department.

(d)—The Huzur Nyaya Cutchery.

The Varisht Court is the highest tribunal in the State, but the power of revising the decisions of that court has, as remarked in previous reports, been reserved to His Highness, who is advised in the exercise of this power by a Committee composed of not less than three members. The Legal Remembrancer and the Naib Dewan, a Judge of the Varisht Court not connected with the case under appeal and the Huzur Kamdar are usually members of this Committee. They hold their sessions four times in the year and continue to work till all the cases ready for hearing are disposed of. They give a regular hearing to the parties concerned and report their conclusions to His Highness who passes the final decision.

The following table shows the work done by the Huzur Nyaya Cutchery during the year under report :—

Nature of Cases.	Arrears of the last year.		Filed in the current year.		Disposed off during the year.		Pending at the end of the year.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Appeals—								
(*a*) Civil ...	15	15	24	23	24	21	15	17
(*b*) Criminal.	5	6	8	2	7	7	6	1
Extraordinary applications—								
(*a*) Civil	...	...	6	7	6	6	...	1
(*b*) Criminal	6	...	17	17	23	16	...	1
Total ...	26	21	55	49	60	50	21	20

These figures show that there is a decrease in the file and the disposal of cases while the arrears have almost remained stationary. Out of the 17 civil appeals that remained pending at the close of the year 9 were not ready for hearing owing to the non-service of summonses on respondents and in the remaining 8 arguments of the parties were heard but the Committee could not record their opinions before the end of the year owing to the absence in the Districts of one of the members. Similarly the one criminal appeal that remained pending at the end of the year was not ready for hearing while in the two extraordinary applications the pleaders for the applicants applied for postponement. The delay in writing judgments is the only feature in the working of the Institution which calls for comment and for improvement. It has not, however, escaped notice. A special measure has been adopted. A limit of 15 days has been fixed within which the members are required to record their opinion and in case any extension of time is deemed necessary, the matter has to be reported to the Minister.

(*e*)—REFORMS.

The scheme for the separation of Executive and Judicial Functions was revised and finally adopted. Two new courts were consequently opened, one at Choranda and the other at Vadavali. The Baroda Mahal Munsiff Court was abolished and the villages under its jurisdiction were placed within the jurisdictions of the Baroda City, Choranda, Savli, and Dabhoi Munsiff Courts.

(2) An arrangement has been arrived at with the British Government on terms of reciprocity under Section 229 (B) of the British Civil Procedure Code tentatively for a period of 6 years, whereby decrees passed by the Courts in His Highness' dominion could be executed by the British Courts as if they were made by the latter.

(3) To accelerate the disposal of offences under the Infant Marriage Prevention Act, Mahal Magistrates have been invested with power to try these cases summarily.

(4) Additional powers have been conferred on the Honorary Municipal Magistrates enabling them to try offences under the Vahan Nibandha.

(5) To prevent original suits from being unduly protracted the 1st and 2nd Appellate Courts were directed to dispose of those appeals and applications wherein stay orders were issued by them within 4 and 2 months respectively.

(6) A special grant for the purchase of Standard Law Books was made and the libraries of the several Courts were equipped with important legal works.

V.—REVENUE.—SECTION A.

(*a*)—Administrative Arrangements.

The constitution of the Land Revenue Department was the same as in the previous year. The scope of work of this branch of the Department remained the same as in the preceding year, *i. e.*, the supervision of Districts, the collection of land tax, local cess, income-tax, miscellaneous demands and the supervision and maintenance of the State boundaries.

Throughout the year under report the post of the Sar Subha was held and its duties performed with his accustomed zeal, energy and ability by Dewan Bahadur V. M. Samarth, B.A. The Sar Subha was assisted by Mr. Chotalal Baberbhai Patel, B.A., Naib Sar Subha, and by Mr. Laxman Govind Ghanekar, B.A., Assistant Sar Subha, from 1st October to the end of the year, while Mr. Govind Vishvanath Gokhale was in charge of the latter's office from 1st August to 30th September.

The Sar Subha travelled 107 days, inspected 6 Mahal Offices, one District Subha's Office, 2 Tagavi Kamdars' Offices and visited 68 villages.

The territorial divisions and sub-divisions remained the same as in the previous year, that is, 4 divisions, 34 talukas and 13 sub-talukas.

(*b*)—Agricultural and General Condition of the State and the People.

The collection of Land Revenue depends upon rain-fall and the state of the crops.

The following table gives the comparative statement of rain-fall during the year under report and that of the previous year :—

Name of District.	Average rain-fall of the last 10 years.	Rain-fall in 1906-07.	Rain-fall in 1907-08.
Baroda	28·74	37·38	30·65
Kadi	20·95	32·97	34·87
Naosari	41·10	47·62	44·15
Amreli	17·02	24·98	19·41

In all the Districts except Kadi the rain-fall was less than that of the preceding year, but more than the average of the last 10 years. The rainy season commenced well, but after a continuous fall during the month of July, it stopped at once in the middle of August. This sudden and untimely cessation of rains greatly reduced the yield of the Kharif and Rabi crops and in some places there was great hardship amongst the cultivators. However they withstood adverse conditions without having recourse to relief works, &c. To alleviate the hardship Government took timely measures of suspensions and remissions as shown in the following table :—

Name of the District.	Suspensions.	Remissions.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	3,17,189	.....
Kadi	8,25,061	18,627
Naosari	.....	.....
Amreli	4,82,122	.....
Total Rs. ...	16,24,372	18,627

The average yield of staple crops in the several Districts was less than in the preceding year.

In the Kadi District only were wheat, rape-seed and castor crops better than in the preceding year. Jowar and wheat crops were better in the Baroda and Amreli Districts respectively. In the Naosari District almost all the crops did not compare favourably with those of the preceding year. On the whole the yield from Rabi crops was better as compared with that of Kharif crops owing to favourable winds and cold.

As the average yield of staple crops was less, the prices of almost all food stuffs were higher than in the preceding year.

Different crops.—The following table gives the area under the principal crops :—

Name of crops.	1906-07.		1907-08.	
	Area under crops in local bighas.	Percentage.	Area under crops in local bighas.	Percentage.
Rice	3,57,447	7·3	2,87,615	7·07
Bajri	9,39,532	19·8	7,90,273	19·43
Jowar	7,96,631	16·8	8,31,050	20·43
Wheat	1,20,368	2·6	1,33,950	3·30
Other cereals	3,74,904	8·0	1,16,413	2·87
Pulses	5,34,763	11·3	96,349	2·37
Cotton	10,60,269	22·4	10,80,405	26·56
Opium	15,917	·33	3,042	0·8
Tobacco	55,675	1·16	27,593	0·68
Sugarcane	3,807	·01	4,571	0·11
Oil-seeds	3,92,845	8·3	2,28,553	5·61
Others	90,691	1·10	4,67,483	11·49
Total ...	47,42,849	...	40,67,297	...

From the above it will be seen that the cultivation of jowar, cotton and wheat has increased while that of pulses, opium and tobacco has decreased.

The following table shows the number of animals useful for agriculture and other purposes and the agricultural implements during the year under report as compared with those in the previous year:—

Year.	Number of animals useful for agricultural and other purposes.													Ploughs.	Carts & Carriages.
	Cattle.							Horses, ponies, etc.							
	For agricultural purposes.			For purposes other than those of agriculture.			Total.	Horses.	Ponies.	Asses & Mules.	Total.	Sheep & Goats.	Total.		
	Bullocks.	Buffaloes.	Total.	Cows.	She-buffaloes.	Total.									
1906-07 ...	3,07,168	4,364	3,11,532	1,82,067	2,24,160	4,06,227	7,17,759	8,699	1,774	19,932	30,405	3,98,627	11,46,791	1,44,190	66,654
1907-08 ...	3,10,333	5,217	3,15,550	1,93,268	2,59,306	4,52,574	7,68,124	9,109	1,454	23,494	34,057	4,32,147	12,34,328	1,45,692	65,568

The following table gives the comparative statement of kutcha and pucca wells during the year under report and the previous year :—

Year.	For irrigation purposes.			For purposes other than irrigation.			Remarks.
	Wells.		Tanks.	Wells.		Tanks.	
	Kuchha.	Pucca.		Kuchha.	Pucca.		
At the end of 1906-07 ...	18,336	42,040	891	2,523	10,813	5,620	The figures for 1906-07 do not tally with those given in the report of the last year as correct figures are given in this report.
Constructed in 1907-08...	406	764	4	66	341	344	
Deduct those that became useless	681	680	2	254	221	109	
Balance at the end of the year	17,961	42,124	893	2,335	10,933	5,855	

It will be seen that kutcha wells have decreased, while pucca wells have increased in the year under report. The increase in pucca wells for irrigation purposes is 84 and is due to the policy of advancing Tugavi to cultivators for making and repairing wells, on easy terms.

A sum of Rs. 1,25,988 was advanced for sinking and repairing wells. A sum of Rs. 2,86,202 was also advanced for purchasing plough bullocks, besides Rs. 74,945 advanced for building houses, the purchase of seeds and manure, grass, etc.

The general condition of the people was much the same as in the preceding year, although the rainy season ended unfavourably on account of the cessation of rains in its latter part. The effect however of the unfavourable season was largely mitigated by a steady rise in the wages of labourers, the liberal policy of Government in granting timely suspensions and remissions to cultivators and the steady increase of industrial activities in the State.

(c)—Land Revenue.

The following table gives the total number of villages in the several districts as well as such as are alienated therein.

Division.	Total Villages.	Alienated Villages.
Baroda	854½	76
Kadi	1,153	93
Naosari	995	39
Amreli	302	26
Total ...	3,309½	234

In the preceding year there were 3,316½ villages and accordingly there has been a decrease of 7 villages. This is owing to the fact that 4 villages in the Vyara Mahal, 2 villages in the Baroda, and 1 village in the Kadi Division have been amalgamated with other villages.

There were 237 alienated villages in the preceding year. The decrease of 3 villages in the year under report is due to 2 in the Baroda Division and 1 in the Kadi Division having been declared Khalsa (Government).

The total land in the State was as under :—

District.	1906-07.		1907-08.	
	Bighas.	Kumbhas.	Bighas.	Kumbhas.
Baroda	20,33,136	27,969	20,42,128	21,980
Kadi	32,72,938	.....	32,74,025	.....
Naosari	15,15,501	.....	15,45,597	.....
Amreli	14,51,385	.....	14,51,460	.....
Total ...	82,72,960	27,969	83,13,210	21,980

The increase in the Baroda and Kadi Districts has resulted from more correct entry in the Government records, and that in the Naosari District from the new Jamabandi settlement in the Vyara Mahal and the revision Jamabandi settlements in the Naosari and Ghandevi Mahals, which led to the correction of inaccuracies in measurements.

The following table gives in local bighas the area of land relinquished and taken up for cultivation during the year under report as compared with that of the preceding year :—

1906-07.		1907-08.	
Land relinquished.	Land brought under cultivation.	Land relinquished.	Land brought under cultivation.
20,169	1,81,982	20,294	1,18,798

It is gratifying to note that every year land is taken up for cultivation in considerable quantity.

The following table shows transfers of land held by cultivators :—

How transferred.	1906-07.		1907-08.	
	Persons.	Bighas.	Persons.	Bighas.
Inheritance	7,174	102,203	11,367	1,68,042
Partition	148	5,636	120	1,400
Gifts or exchange ...	842	8,416	586	9,742
Mortgage	760	6,260	904	7,313
Redemption	117	666	81	750
Sale	4,871	48,569	4,145	42,029
Other reasons	2,209	25,123	3,330	30,900
Total ...	16,121	1,94,873	20,533	2,60,176

From the table it will be seen that more transfers were made owing to inheritance, mortgage and other unspecified causes during the year than in the previous year. Cases of land transferred through sale are less in the year under report. This is so far satisfactory. But this happy change is counterbalanced by more transfers brought about by mortgages and other causes. This state of things would seem to suggest the need of a careful enquiry into the economic condition of agriculturists and it is hoped that the subject which has long been under consideration will be submitted for decision by the Committees and officers entrusted with the duty of investigating it and formulating proposals thereabout.

The following is a comparative statement of land revenue demands and collections during the year under report and the preceding year.

District.	1906-07.		1907-08.	
	Demands.	Collections.	Demands.	Collections.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	32,42,466	31,20,897	34,15,014	29,40,795
Kadi	29,23,866	27,94,622	28,85,115	19,56,529
Naosari	16,93,583	16,77,697	17,50,044	17,22,173
Amreli	9,42,412	8,57,706	9,08,131	4,33,313
Huzur Treasury ...	7,622	7,622	12,618	12,618
Total ...	88,09,949	84,58,544	89,70,922	70,65,428

It will be seen that in the Naosari District both the demands and the collections are greater during the year under report than in the preceding year. In the Baroda District though the demand is greater, the collections are less, while in the remaining divisions the demand has been less and the collections decidedly so during the year under report. Owing to the untimely cessation of rains the crops greatly suffered in all the Districts except Naosari and to alleviate the hard-

ship of cultivators His Highness the Maharaja graciously issued timely orders for suspensions and remissions. The result was evident, *viz.*, a not inconsiderable falling off in the collections.

The following table shows the total amount of remissions granted during the year under report :—

District.	Under ordinary rules.		Total.
	Past arrears.	Current arrears.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	21,574	4,481	26,055
Kadi	76,776	40,072	1,16,848
Naosari	10,399	4,448	15,847
Amreli	64,136	5,214	69,350
Total ...	1,72,885	54,215	2,27,100

Thus the total amount of arrears written off is Rs. 2,27,100 against Rs. 3,64,911 in the previous year and includes the remissions granted in Petlad together with its Peta Mahal Siswa on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee.

The following is a comparative statement relating to the arrears of land revenue for the years 1906-07 and 1907-08.

District.	At the beginning of 1907-08.	At the close of 1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	28,62,922	30,90,038
Kadi	23,12,217	29,65,275
Naosari	1,26,604	92,890
Amreli	11,98,294	15,58,646
Total ...	65,00,037	77,06,849

It will be seen that there are more arrears at the close than in the beginning of the year. The increase in the arrears is due to the order of His Highness the Maharaja giving suspensions in all the districts except Naosari. In the Naosari District the arrears are less at the close of the year.

The following table shows the coercive measures taken during the year under report as compared with those in the previous year :—

Coercive measures for recovery of land revenue.

Items.	Number of cases in 1906-07.	Number of cases in 1907-08.
Notices	81,410	70,208
Fines	80	54
Sales of land	1,598	734
„ moveable property	293	423
„ immoveable property other than land ...	297	257
Cases in which land was resumed and entered as unoccupied as there were no bidders for it.	651	351
Arrests	236	258
Forfeitures	13	77
Attachments of Government lands	5,692	3,650
Attachment of alienated land	168	161
„ of alienated villages, Narwa villages, &c.	15	6
Total ...	90,453	76,179

From the above table it will be noticed that the number of coercive measures resorted to was less under all heads except those of sale of moveable property, forfeitures and arrests. This is due to the timely orders of Government staying processes for the recovery of Government dues.

The following table compares miscellaneous land revenue under the sub-heads specified therein for the past year and for that under report :—

Division.	Ferries.		Interest from Tagavi, etc.		Miscellaneous.		Total.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	218	221	4,602	3,803	11,933	29,948	16,754	33,973
Kadi...	...	...	27,298	11,169	19,317	63,990	46,615	75,159
Naosari	322	424	780	415	7,940	20,946	9,042	21,786
Amreli	6,571	2,555	1,209	560	11,042	11,409	18,821	14,524
Total ...	7,111	3,200	33,889	15,947	50,232	1,26,293	91,232	1,45,442

From the above it will be seen that the income from ferries has slightly increased in the Baroda and Naosari Districts, while there is a large decrease in the Amreli District as compared with the preceding year. This latter circumstance is due to reduced realization from the boat izara (farm) in Okhamandal.

The amount of interest on Tagavi advances, etc., in the year under report is about a half of that of the preceding year. This is due to the suspension of Tagavi instalments, while the miscellaneous items in the year yielded double the amount realized in the preceding year. On the whole the revenue is about one and a half times more than that in the preceding year.

(*d*)—Local Cess.

The following table shows the demand and the collections of local cess during the year under report as compared with those of the previous year :—

Name of District.	1906-07.		1907-08.	
	Demand.	Collection.	Demand.	Collection.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	2,66,951	2,48,119	2,69,540	2,60,273
Kadi	1,85,145	1,76,638	1,86,958	1,77,565
Naosari	1,16,105	1,15,506	1,22,985	1,22,556
Amreli	69,374	52,356	71,420	29,932
Total ...	6,37,575	5,92,619	6,50,903	5,90,326

From this it will be seen that in all the districts the demand and the collections are greater during the year under report than in the previous year, only in the Amreli District is the collection less. This deficiency in the collection is due to the Government order suspending the recovery of local cess along with the suspension of land revenue. The distribution of the revenue derived from the local cess to the different Local Boards for expenditure on useful works will be described in a subsequent chapter.

(*e*)—Taxes.

Under the head of taxes are included Aypat Vero (Income Tax), Ubhad Vero (a kind of house rent paid by non-agriculturists) miscellaneous taxes which could not be absorbed in the Aypat Vero and the pilgrim tax in Dwarka.

The revenue under this head was Rs. 1,24,778 in the year against Rs. 1,54,093 in the preceding year.

The following table gives the number of persons in each class, paying Income-Tax, at the Huzur Treasury and the various Districts and the amount of the demand :—

Income-Tax.

Class of payers of Income-Tax.	Huzur Treasury.	Baroda.	Kadi.	Naosari.	Amreli.	Total Persons.	Total Revenue.
							Rs.
*1st Rs. 7 ...	.....	.....	.....	1	5	6	42
2nd Rs. 10 ...	233	362	293	131	122	1,141	11,410
3rd Rs. 15 ...	358	362	291	164	112	1,287	19,294
4th Rs. 35 ...	72	64	42	42	12	232	8,113
5th Rs. 60 ...	55	22	8	11	6	102	6,120
6th Rs. 90 ...	35	21	5	7	8	76	6,840
7th Rs. 150 ...	.....	9	2	.....	.....	11	1,650
8th above Rs. 150	29	5	.....	1	2	37	11,165
Total ...	782	845	641	357	267	2,892	64,634

* *N.B.*—This class has been abolished in the revised scale during the year under report. The income shown here is that of the last year which escaped assessment.

In the preceding year 5,660 persons paid Rs. 72,960 as Income-Tax. It will therefore appear that there is a large decrease in the number of persons paying Income-Tax and not a small one in its amount. The decrease is due to the beneficient order of His Highness the Maharaja who graciously raised the limit of taxable minimum from Rs. 500 to 750 on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee. By virtue of this order 3,192 persons paying Rs. 22,344 as Income-Tax obtained exemption in the year under report.

During the year under report the Aypat Vero Niband was enacted on the lines of the British Income-tax Act and so also the Niyam (rules) pertaining thereto. The taxable minimum has been kept up as before, but the previous scale of taxation has been changed and one uniform rate of 1½ per cent. fixed for all incomes of Rs. 1,000 and above with the result that it is still lower than that obtaining in neighbouring territory. With this difference the Act and the rules are for the most part similar to those existing in British India.

The order of the Council redeeming Ubhad Vero on the payment of 20 times the difference between the amount of the vero and the ordinary rent for homestead lands was in force during the year, and while some of the local officers have mostly brought about a commutation of this vero, others have fallen behind in this respect, as some of the tax-payers did not come forward to redeem owing to their inability to pay lump sums. However, it is expected that before the period of 5 years fixed for the process expires most of the Ubhad Vero will be redeemed, and the rent of homestead lands will be uniform.

(*f*)—State Boundaries.

The strength of the permanent establishment remained the same as in the last year. Two extra surveyors sanctioned in the year for a period of 3 years continued to work throughout the year. The permanent expert establishment was as follows :—

1 Simada Kamdar.

1 Head Surveyor.

5 Surveyors.

The following comparative statement shows the important work turned out during the year under report, as compared with the preceding year :—

Nature of Work..	1906-07.	1907-08.
Boundaries surveyed	68	76
Boundaries verified	70	46
Boundaries settled	26	6
Cases conducted in the Boundary Commissioner's Court	3	2
Foreign Boundaries examined	177	421
Taluka Boundary records inspected	10	11
Railway demarcation	.....	.....
Copies of maps supplied to other offices	516	577
Copies of Boundary field-books supplied to other offices	340	327
Boundaries examined by Local Officers	1,130	1,218

From the above statement it will be seen that the work has maintained the level of the previous year. As in the last year no Railway demarcation was done in this year. The question of settling the standard breadth is under consideration in view of the recent orders of the Bombay Government and until that is settled no demarcation can be expected.

The figures in items 2 and 3 no doubt compare unfavourably with those of the previous year. The disparity is due to the vicissitudes to which all works of this nature are subject. The deficiency under this head is however more than made up under item 5, as the out-turn of the year under report is nearly two and half times as much as that of the previous year.

The Dang disputes relating to the boundaries of Khokharvihir and the surrounding villages, referred to in the last year's report were amicably settled during the year under report by the Assistant Sar Subah in conjunction with Mr. Dalia, the Divisional Forest Officer of the Dangs, who displayed a commendable spirit in the course of the settlement negotiations. These were the last disputes on the Dang frontier.

Mr. L. G. Ghanekar in conjunction with Mr. Ladhabhai, the District Deputy Assistant Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, took up nine cases for settlement, and collected and considered evidence on either side and laboured for about 30 days, but only one case was decided.

Mr. G. V. Gokhale worked also with Mr. Panachand Jaichand, District Deputy Assistant Political Agent, Rewa Kantha, and settled ten disputes.

Two boundary cases, *viz.*, the Lodra-Bodpura and Sakarda-Mokshi were conducted in the Boundary Commissioner's Court. The Commissioner has delivered his award in the former case which has been partially unfavourable.

The work of inspection of boundary marks done by local officers was satisfactory.

The Dang authorities made a proposal that they might undertake the annual repairs of all the Dang frontier marks, as they were in a better position to do them, and that this State should pay a moiety of the actual cost. The principle underlying the proposal was accepted by the State with due modifications as a tentative measure for three years. A few rules of procedure for securing the presence of its representative in view to co-operation with the Dang authorities have been drawn up and mutually accepted. It is hoped that this will be a very effectual step towards the maintenance of territorial marks on the Dang frontier.

VI.—JOINT REVENUE—SECTION B.

(*a*)—Administrative Arrangements.

In the years preceding the year under report, all the branches which at present constitute the Joint Revenue Department were formed into several groups, and each of them was placed under an independent officer of the Naib Subha's grade, exercising, except in a few cases, the Subha's powers ; the powers of the Sar Subha and Dewan being vested in the Amatya. But in March 1907 all these branches were placed under one Principal Officer, designated the "Joint Sar Subha" and exercising the Sar Subha's powers. Mr. K. B. Jadhav was first appointed to that post. He served therein till November 1907, when on his transfer to the Kadi Division as Subha, Mr. R. C. Whitenack, Economic Adviser to the Government, was appointed to perform his duties, in addition to those of the Department of Commerce and Industries.

In January 1908 a new post of Principal Assistant was sanctioned and Mr. K. G. Deshpande was appointed thereto. The routine work and work of minor importance pertaining to the several branches of the Department was performed by five special Assistants.

It was suggested by the Joint Sar Subha that with a view to bring the various branches into closer touch with one another and to secure effective control and supervision over them, a Central Branch might be established, and clerks were as a temporary measure, allowed to him but it is unlikely that as his experience advances, he will need them all.

The working of the various branches during the year under report is described below under separate headings.

(*b*)—Religious and Charitable Institutions.

The duties of this branch have been described in the previous reports. The number of Institutions under State

Management was 49 and their total expenditure was Rs. 1,19,661 against Rs. 1,13,187 in the previous year, the slight increase being due to a rise in the prices of grain, &c.

The work of revising the budgets of expenditure of these Institutions and reducing needless expenditure, was taken up during the year with the result that the previous total of Rs. 85,733 was brought down to Rs. 70,239. A Committee consisting of Messrs. Sampatrao, Deshpande, Dalvi and Nadkarni was appointed to effect this reduction. Another important step taken may be mentioned here. A scheme for a General and a Reserve Fund has been framed with the object of utilizing the surplus balances of these Institutions towards some useful and charitable purposes. Some details of the working of this scheme will appear in the Administration Report of the next year.

The temples and buildings appertaining to these institutions had remained unrepaired for a long time and large repairs were necessary. A sum of Rs. 12,000 was sanctioned during the year and repairs to several of them were carried out.

As stated in the previous reports, two of these Institutions, *viz.*, Kedareshwar Khichadi and the Gyarmi Karkhana are situated in the City of Baroda and are intended for the charitable distribution of food to Hindus and Mahomadans respectively. The number of passes held by the Hindu recipients at the close of the year was 1,007 and their average daily attendance was 69 per cent. of the total number. The passes held by the Mahomadans at the close of the year numbered 808 and the daily attendance was 84 per cent. of the total.

The number of Institutions managed by private individuals and receiving aid from the State is about 6,000 and in pursuance of the Sarvajanik Sanstha Nibandh, they have

come under stricter supervision on the part of the State than heretofore. The objects and scope of this Nibandh have been explained in the previous reports. Institutions having an annual income of Rs. 200 and above are 190 and they are now required to submit their budgets every five years. Until the close of the year under report, the managers of 66 Institutions submitted their budgets for scrutiny and sanction and many are expected to follow the course during the current year. The managers of 4 temples, however, elected to forego the pecuniary aid they received from the State rather than submit to this State control. The Act is worked cautiously and efforts are made to avoid offending the susceptibilities of the communities concerned. These are now beginning to perceive and appreciate the good intentions of Government.

Mr. Nadkarni worked as Deveasthan Assistant and Sarvajanik Sanstha Tapasni Kamdar during the year. He visited 179 Institutions in the Baroda and Naosari Districts and 21 Institutions in foreign territory and gave instructions to the managers to rectify the defects that were noticed.

A scheme was framed for the working of one charitable endowment, *viz.*, the Petlad Boarding Fund. Rules and Regulations were framed by the Department about charitable endowments under Section 24 of the Charitable Endowments Act VIII of Samvat 1961 and at the close of the year they were under the consideration of Government.

(*c*)—Court of Wards.

There were 60 Wards under the guardianship of this Office in the beginning of the year under report. One of them died and four new Wards came under supervision during the year, making in all 63 Wards at the close of the year.

As mentioned in previous reports, the principal duties of this office mainly consist in (1) the management of the minor's estates and (2) the education and proper training of the minors themselves. In order to enable it to discharge these duties satisfactorily, quarterly and half-yearly statements concerning the estate as well as the health and the education of the minors are received from the local Vahivatdars and steps are taken from time to time to remedy such defects as may be disclosed therein.

Budgets of expenditure are framed with due regard to the pecuniary condition and social position of the family of each ward. Agents are appointed to manage property where minors have large incomes but where the case is otherwise, the estates are either managed by Vahivatdars or by private guardians placed under the Vahivatdars. The sum total of the properties managed amounts to Rs. 20,94,297 and the annual income was Rs. 1,21,444.

A committee consisting of five gentlemen of note helps the Department by their advice on matters placed before them affecting the welfare of minors. This scheme has been found to work well and the Department brings specially to notice two of these gentlemen, *viz.*, Messrs. Munshi and Harshe who have rendered particularly useful service. It also commends the zeal and energy displayed in the work by its Principal Assistant, Mr. Deshpande.

The savings of the wards are generally invested in the Government of India Promissory Notes. When good securities are available, money is lent at interest. Sometimes it is found convenient to borrow money from one ward and lend it to another on approved securities. Whether this is quite expedient or proper requires consideration. Further as the Bank of Baroda has been started, it is contemplated to put the savings into the Bank, under due safeguards and limitations.

Marriages of three wards were celebrated during the year.

In order to have more efficient control over a number of boys whose education is neglected owing to lack of supervision, a boarding school has been started with Government help and at the close of the year there were six wards kept at Baroda. The experiment was started at about the close of the year and its results will become known during the current year. Most of the boys kept at the school have no large incomes and it is intended to keep all their expenses in Baroda within Rs. 20 per mensem.

Steps are also taken either to lighten the burden of debts pressing on the minors or to improve their property.

(*d*)—Attached Estates.

The number of estates under attachment at the beginning and at the close of the year under report, and the causes that led to their attachment, are shown in the following table :—

	Under the Guardians and Wards Act.	Mortgaged to Govt. for Loans.	Attached for arrears of Revenue.	Attached owing to disputes among holders.	Attached for mismanagement of Temples.	Attached for protection of Govt. shares.	Attached pending mutation of names.	Attached as properties of Temples under Govt. management.	Attached for other causes.	Total.
Estates under management at the beginning of the year.	34	37	48	17	47	4	63	14	47	311
At the close of the year ...	40	42	44	19	46	5	61	16	87	360

During the year under report 64 estates came under the supervision of this Department, while 15 were released, thus making a net increase of 49.

The following figures will show the annual incomings of these attached estates, and arrears for the year under report as compared with the preceding year.

Year.	Demand.			Collections.			Arrears.		
	Past.	Current.	Total.	Towards past demand.	Towards current demand.	Total.	Past.	Present.	Total.
1906-07.	Rs. a. p. 6,98,744 14 7	7,66,966 8 10	14,65,711 7 5	95,514 4 7	40,177 1 10	1,35,731 6 5	6,04,039 9 6	7,30,048 15 2	13,34,088 8 8
1907-08.	Rs. a. p. 7,66,986 8 10	6,42,140 12 10	14,09,107 5 8	40,177 1 10	5,57,167 5 3	5,97,344 7 1	7,30,048 15 2	98,872 0 1	8,29,920 15 3

Of the Rs. 8,29,920-15-3 in arrears, only Rs. 98,872-0-1 stand over from the last year's demand, and the remaining Rs. 7,30,048-15-2 represent the arrears of past years. The total collection in the year under report was decidedly better than that of the preceding year. The Department is directed to take strict steps to recover the large arrears still outstanding.

The number of years for which the several estates have continued under attachment is shown in the following table. It will be seen that 193 estates have been under attachment for more than five years.

Number of estates under attachment for more than					
One year.	Two years.	Three years.	Four years.	Five years.	Total.
62	30	25	50	193	360

A charge of two per cent. on the annual proceeds of these estates is levied for Government management and out of its proceeds the Department sanctions establishments for the Talukas according to their needs.

In the year under report inspection of the accounts of these attached estates and their management in Baroda, Sinore, Padra, Patan and Naosari Talukas was made and steps were taken to correct errors that came to notice.

(*e*)—Land Acquisition.

As stated in previous reports there are two regulations for acquiring land and paying compensation for the same. One was passed in 1886 and applies to property situate within the limits of the Baroda Municipality; the other was passed in 1902 and subsequently modified and it applies to property in the rest of the Raj.

The work of compensation to be paid for lands and property having British guarantee has, as hitherto, been done by the Settlement Department (Giras Branch).

In respect of compensation to be paid for lands and other property acquired for Railways, and other special works, and for all works to be executed by the Public Works Department itself, it is the duty of that Department to undertake and finish the work.

The Joint Sar Suba is responsible to see that the compensation work is done expeditiously and satisfactorily and is authorized to exercise the powers of supervision which appertain to the Head of a Department over the officers and subordinates belonging to all the Departments concerned with compensation work, to call for explanations, &c., and to impose fines or inflict punishments, when work is found defective or unsatisfactory.

A new Land Acquisition Bill has been under the consideration of the Government. The Act when passed will, it is hoped, simplify the work of awarding compensation.

The work done during the year under report will be seen from the following table as compared with the last year :—

Details of cases in which compensation was awarded.

District and Department.	Number of Cases.	Area of land compensated for in Bighas.	Amount of the award. Rs. a. p.	Area of land given in exchange in Bighas.	Property other than land compensated for.
Baroda Division	209	119 2 1	2,614 0 2	18 7 0	1,110 12 0
Amreli „	38	63 15 14	9,793 3 1	0 13 0	126 8 10
		21,873·8 sq. ft.		184 sq ft.	
Naosari „	37	32 14 0	671 13 8	3 6 0	6,140 9 6
Kadi „	327	580 6 18	7,828 12 2	.....	509 5 3
Survey and Settlement Dept. (Giras Branch) ...	2	1 10 0	83 10 3	.....	25 0 0
Special Compensation Office	449	1,723 0 14	5,199 7 6	19 5 0	182 2 9
Huzur P. W. Dept.	332	421 14 0	9,490 13 2	7 7 0	67,267 3 11
		70,077 sq. ft.		4,185 sq. ft.	
Total	1,394	2,942 3 7	35,681 11 2	48-18	75,361 10 3
		9,150·8 sq. ft.		4,369 sq. ft.	
Figures for 1906-07	1,091	1,056 7 15 39,293 sq. ft.	88,648 0 4	57 5 4	.....

The large figures for the year 1906-07 are explained by the fact that many cases of past years were dealt with by a special officer in that year.

JOINT REVENUE—SECTION C.

(*f*)—Customs.

In the year under Report, the following changes were made in the Tariff:—

(1) The abolition of Octroi duties in the towns of Dwarka, Varwala and Beyt.

(2) The introduction of a specific duty in lieu of an *ad valorem* one in accordance with the general scheme laid down in the year 1905 in the Amreli Division, and

(3) The reduction of half an anna in the export duty on clean cotton in the Baroda Division.

The following statement shows the Revenue from Customs duties in all the Divisions as compared with that in the previous year :—

Division.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda ...	5,04,161	4,11,861
Naosari ...	20,285	19,712
Kadi ...	2,13,409	1,95,121
Amreli ...	48,759	37,633
Total ...	7,86,614	6,64,327

There is a decrease of Rs. 1,22,287 in the gross Customs revenue.

The large decrease of Rs. 92,300 in the Baroda Division is due to the failure of the cotton crop as well as to the reduction of the export duty mentioned above. The reduction of Rs. 11,126 in the Amreli Division is due to a change in the system of levying duty and the abolition of the octroi duty. The reduction in the Kadi Division is mainly due to a bad harvest, and its consequent effect on the importation of sugar and molasses.

(*g*)—Excise.

The revenue under the head of Excise comprises, as mentioned in the previous reports, revenue from (1) farming the manufacture and sale of country liquor, and (2) license for the sale of (*a*) foreign liquor, (*b*) toddy, and (3) intoxicating drugs.

The Abkari farm of the Naosari Division ceased at the end of the year under Report. It has been again sold in the current year for Rs. 4,65,000 for a period of three years with an increase of Rs. 52,750 in the annual yield.

Individual toddy shops have also been sold for the next three years with an increase of Rs. 4,002.

The following statement gives the excise revenue for the year under report as compared with that of the previous year :—

Item.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Manufacture and sale of liquor	7,66,226	7,54,211
Sale of intoxicating drugs	7,838	10,034
Extraction and sale of toddy	1,54,570	1,66,129
Fees for license for foreign liquor ...	1,175	2,900
Miscellaneous	26,033	2,074
Total ...	9,55,842	9,39,348

There is thus a decrease of Rs. 26,494 in the excise revenue in the year under report, and that is due to the fact that in the previous year a sum of Rs. 23,820 was received from the British Government, as a refund on duty in a lump sum, charged on Bhang and Ganja for four years. The refund for the year under report will be credited in the current year. The decrease, therefore, is nominal only.

The following statement gives the demand, collection, and arrears for the year under report :—

District.	Demand.	Collection.	Arrears.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	1;97,941	1,97,317	624
Kadi	90,963	83,940	7,023
Naosari	6,43,432	6,42,592	841
Amreli	7,012	7,012	.....
Total ...	9,39,348	9,30,861	8,528

Only the Kadi Division shows large arrears due to irregular and incomplete payment of the fixed instalments by the Abkari Contractor which should have been prevented by the Department. The arrears in the other divisions are slight and need no explanation.

The following comparative statement gives the number of liquor and toddy shops and depôts opened for retail sale out of those sanctioned during the year under report :—

District.	Shops sanctioned.	Liquor Shops.		Toddy Shops.		Foreign Liquor Shops.		Total.	
		1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Baroda	412	274	295	3	5	5	3	282	303
Kadi	255	194	188	...	...	...	...	194	188
Naosari	704	339	366	270	234	7	5	616	605
Amreli	47	29	28	2	3	...	...	31	31
Total ...	1,418	836	877	275	242	12	8	1,123	1,127

The number of shops that can be opened has been sanctioned long since, but that number is not generally reached. The contractor opens shops according to his convenience, and on a calculation of the profits to be earned.

Taking the figures for the last five years it appears that the consumption of liquor is increasing in the Kadi, Naosari and Amreli Divisions, while in the Baroda Division there is a slight decrease. The increase is partly due to the fact that in several places, the people have taken to drink in place of the old habit of eating opium. The figures of the last two years show that there is a decrease in the local consumption of opium.

(*h*)—Opium.

The sources of Opium revenue, as mentioned in the previous report, are as follows :—

(*a*) Profits on the sale of opium in the Bombay Market.

(*b*) Profits on opium issued to farmers and licensed vendors for consumption in the State.

(*c*) Fees for licenses for retail vend and miscellaneous receipts.

The manufacture of opium has been a state monopoly and conducted under the system prevailing in Bengal, while the retail sale for consumption within the State is managed under the system in vogue in the Bombay Districts.

The cultivation and manufacture of opium were carried on in the Kadi District during the year under Report. Cultivation under licenses was carried on in the Sidhpur, Pattan, Visnagar, Vadavali, Vijapur, Kheralu and Mehsana Talukas of the District.

The following comparative statement shows the area under poppy cultivation and its yield :—

Year.	Area under cultivation in acres.	Total yield of the juice in lbs.	Average yield in lbs.
1906-07 ...	10,987	96,621	8·31
1907-08 ...	2,744	39,072	14·10

There is a considerable decrease in the cultivation. The area comes to about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the preceding year and $\frac{1}{8}$ of the year before last. The decrease appears to some extent to be due to the failure of the late rains and the consequent diminution in the out-turn of Khariff crops, leading the cultivators to resort to other crops, such as wheat, castor, and rape seed, the prices of which have lately risen. But this wholly does not account for the serious decline noticeable, and the Department having had its attention drawn to the circumstance is engaged in making the requisite enquiry.

Licensed cultivators are bound to sell all the juice to the State at the rate fixed previous to issuing the licenses. The maximum rate for the best juice for the year under Report was Rs. 3-4-0 per seer of 40 tolas. The following table shows the quantity of opium sent to the Government depôts and to Bombay during the year under report and the previous year :—

Year.	Opium sent to the Government depôts for Local Consumption.	Opium sold at Bombay for Export.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
1906-07 ...	25,900	3,22,622
1907-08 ...	30,450	2,27,263

In the Kadi, Amreli and Baroda Districts, licenses were, as before, given for individual shops by auction, while in the Naosari District the license for retail sale was given by auction to a single farmer for the whole District.

The financial results of the sale of opium within the State are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Cost of production in Rs.	Amount realized from licensed vendors in Rs.	Profit to the State in Rs.
1906-07 ...	1,06,482	3,51,917	2,45,435
1907-08 ...	1,19,046	3,52,383	2,33,337

Opium chests were sold at Bombay for foreign export through Messrs. Tata Sons & Co.

The following table will show the financial results of the sale of Opium at Bombay :—

Year.	Cost Price including interest, Railway freight, Agency, &c.	Transit duty paid at Ahmedabad.	Total Cost at Bombay.	Sale-proceeds.	Profit to the State.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1906-07 ...	11,77,560	12,84,000	24,61,560	28,77,787	4,16,227
1907-08 ...	8,96,412	10,02,000	18,98,412	21,64,647	2,66,234

Mr. Mahomed Ali, the Opium Superintendent, was in charge of the Department throughout the year.

(*i*)—Salt.

As mentioned in previous years' Reports, the prevention of the manufacture of salt in the Districts of Kadi, Baroda and Naosari is strictly conducted under the agreement with the British Government, and a special establishment is maintained for the purpose.

The Government of India has been addressed to give facilities to import our Kathiawar salt into British India on payment of duty, but the question has not been settled as yet.

The royalty on about 16,650 maunds of salt exported to Zanzibar from Okhamandal was Rs. 518-12-0.

As mentioned in the previous Report, the manufacture of salt by Government in Kodinar was discontinued and to induce Ryots to engage in this trade free permission has been granted to them to import salt from Okhamandal for local consumption in Kodinar. This has caused some loss to the State, but it is amply compensated for in the encouragement to trade that results therefrom and the advantages of a free gift of one of the necessities of life to the poor people.

(*j*)—Ports and Tolls.

The important ports are (1) Naosari, (2) Billimora in the Naosari Division and (3) Kodinar, (4) Velan, (5) Falál Bara, (6) Dwarka and (7) Beyt Shankhoddhar in the Amreli Division.

The question of improving the ports of Dwarka, Beyt and Velan is still under the consideration of the Public Works Department. The large increase in trade during the previous years was due to a simplification of the system of levying port dues and reduction in the charges. This has reduced the income, but as expected it is being made up. This year's income was Rs. 8,043 against Rs. 7,496 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 547.

Tolls.—The tolls in the Amreli Division were further suspended till November 1909.

The town tolls levied at Naosari, Billimora and Kathor are included in the Octroi tariff of the respective towns and the revenue derived therefrom is included in the Octroi revenue of these towns.

The tolls leviable are collected by the Customs establishment.

The revenue derived therefrom in the year under Report was Rs. 2,588 which as compared with the yield of the preceding year, *viz.*, Rs. 3,369, is less by Rs. 781.

(*k*)—Agriculture.

At the end of September 1907, the Industrial Section, including Banks and Co-operative Credit Societies, was separated from the Department of Agriculture and placed under the control of Mr. R. C. Whitenack, Economic Adviser. Mr Raojibhai B. Patel worked as Director of Agriculture up to the 12th December 1907 when he was replaced by Mr. M. A. Sitole, B.A., M.R.A.C., Bar.-at-Law, who continued to work in that capacity till the end of the year under report. Mr. Sitole also performed the additional duties of Assistant Joint Sar Subha in charge, Jakat, Abkari, Opium and General Branches.

The Baroda Agricultural School continued under the charge of this Department. At the beginning of the year under Report, there were 12 students in the Senior Class, and 5 in the Junior Class who all passed the Annual Examination of the School. They were taught theoretical work in the School, and practical work on the Farm. A new curriculum aiming at practical knowledge of Agriculture was prescribed and sufficiently attractive scholarships were offered. It is expected that under the new course, the students after completing their studies in the School will become good farmers. A proposal to start a separate class for the sons of Patels and Matadars is under consideration.

Baroda Model Farm.—Mr. Y. B. Mohite, M.A., was Superintendent of the Farm during the year under review.

Efforts are being made to acquaint cultivators with the working of improved agricultural machines such as turnwrest plough, ridging plough, chaff-cutter, threshing-machine, clod-crusher, line-harrow and triple plough.

Experiments.—Last year's manurial experiments on tobacco were continued. Out of the varieties of cotton tried during the year, narmo gave very good yield, *i.e.*, 1,000 lbs. per acre, and its seed was distributed for trial to the cultivators.

Big Japanese groundnut did not fare well as an unirrigated crop on account of bad season and the attack of white ants. Sesamum sown mixed with castor-oil cakes were successfully tried. Marshy places were found very suitable to the latter ; and the former can safely be planted on pasture ground.

Selected seeds of several varieties of Bajri, Juwar, and other local crops and imported seed of certain exotics and vegetables were supplied to Seed Depôts, Travelling Instructors and to persons who applied for them. Fruit culture, poultry and sheep farming have been recently introduced.

The expenditure on the Farm during the year under report was Rs. 5,318, excluding that on buildings and other permanent improvements, which amounted to Rs. 10,695. The income was Rs. 3,051.

The Songhad Farm continued to do good work as before. The total income was Rs. 1,631 against an expenditure of Rs. 1,365, leaving a net profit of Rs. 266. Experiments with 26 different crops were made in 22 plots ; and 105 boys of the Dhanka Boarding School were given training in practical work on the Farm.

The Travelling Instructors for Amreli, Kadi and Okhamandal continued to do their work of instructing cultivators and of making experiments and met with fair success.

Seed Depôts.—The three Seed Depôts, at Padra, Kaloł and Kodinar advanced seed of the value of Rs. 8,689 to agriculturists as against Rs. 12,209 in the previous year, and the first two realized moderate profits. The Kheralu Seed Depôt suspended in 1904 was revived in February 1908 and new Seed Depôts were started at Amreli and Mehsana at the close of the year under report.

Kodinar Cocoanut Plantation.—There were 1,030 plants at the close of the year under report, while there were 46 fruit yielding trees.

A detailed account of the field experiments successfully made last year on a large scale for eradicating katra (hairy caterpillar) in the village of Kaniel in Atarsumba Peta Mahal of the Dehgam Taluka was published during the year under report in the Agricultural Journal of India, Vol. III, Part II.

With a view to promote the cultivation of Egyptian cotton in the Kanum (black) soil, by saving it from the usual attacks of ball-worm, leaf-roller, stem-borer, and plantlice experiments were made at Mandala in the Dabhoi Taluka with some success.

The Entomological Assistant was sent to the Dhari Taluka, where a kind of grasshopper known locally by the name "khapedi" was reported to be doing havoc. He suggested a remedy which the people would not adopt as involving the taking of life.

An agricultural graduate was deputed to receive training in entomology in the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute of Science at Pusa.

Arboriculture.—Aloe-fibre plants planted last year in the villages of Sarkhada and Akdi and date-palm in Wakia, were found to suit the soil.

The work of planting babul seed in waste lands was continued in the Kadi District, and commenced in the Amreli District. The area planted during the year was 1,650 bighas in the former and 9,581 bighas in the Amreli and Damnagar Talukas. The income and expenditure during the year were Rs. 38,399-10-6 and Rs. 1,604-12-9 respectively, against Rs. 13,589 and Rs. 2,083 respectively in the preceding year. The increase in income was due to a larger sale of babul trees than in the previous year.

Veterinary Surgeons.—The three Veterinary Surgeons at Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli continued to do good work. The Amreli Veterinary Dispensary temporarily opened for one year was sanctioned for one more year. The number of animals treated by these Surgeons during the year under report was 2,350 and that of cattle inoculated against Rinderpest was 10,267. The total number of animals thus treated being 12,617 against 2,760 during the previous year. As a result of inoculation in the Amreli Division it is estimated that about 10,000 heads of cattle were saved and the public have begun to appreciate its benefits. The Subha of the District Mr. Maneklal Sàkerlal was unwearying in his efforts to popularize inoculation and save cattle.

The total expenditure was Rs. 3,875 or about 12½ annas per head of cattle treated.

During the year under report a leaflet in Gujarati giving the symptoms and remedies for the generally prevalent diseases in a compact form was distributed among all village Panchayets. Another leaflet in Gujarati giving remedies for the disease Hæmorrhegic Septicæmia (gal sundha) was also distributed.

Sericulture:—With a view to have a large and constant supply of Mulberry leaves, a plot of land nearly 10 bighas

adjoining the Songhad Farm was added and a large, capacious rearing-room under the shade of trees was constructed according to the Bengal model, for taking large silk-crops. For this purpose as well as with a view to supply cuttings and eggs to ryots who propose to start sericulture, the farm was in other respects also improved and equipped. The sericulture school was transferred to Vyara Farm from 1st August 1908 as recommended by the late Mr. Mukherji.

During the year, 48 high caste boys and 39 Kali Paraj students received instruction in sericulture.

Eggs of eri-silk worms were imported from Pusa and two crops were taken during the year. A leaflet in Gujarati was printed and issued giving details of the cultivation of this variety.

A gold medal was awarded for the excellence of cacoons, both Mulberry-silk and eri-silk sent to the Bhavnagar Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held in April 1908.

Vyara Farm.—5 bighas of good bagayet land were added and cuttings of Mulberry were planted on two bighas of the Farm. A small plot was planted with castor-oil plants for eri-silk crops. Near the Farm one rearing-room like the new one at Songhad and a boarding house for students were constructed and this Farm was accordingly equipped for sericultural training.

It appears that people are slowly taking to the planting of Mulberry and the rearing of worms.

Eri-silk culture is also attracting popular attention. With a view to advance the industry and make it widely known, rearing was established at Baroda, Kadi, Mehsana, Vijapur and Amreli, but the weather at that time was too hot to permit of eggs hatching in more than one or two places.

This industry has spread even beyond the limits of this State and as compared with sericulture proper, it has prospects of permanence.

Expenditure :—The total expenditure on the Songhad Farm was Rs. 7,415 and that on the Vyara Farm including the Sericulture Superintendent's establishment amounted to Rs. 4,644.

(*l*)—Industries.

It is mentioned in the previous report that Mr. R. C. Whitenack, B. A., has been appointed Economic Adviser to promote the development of Industries. During the year under report he was also appointed Director of Commerce and Industries and invested with all the powers of the Head of a Department. He had thus charge of all matters relating to Banking and Mining, to which was added Supervision and Control of Co-operative Credit Societies. Later on in the year he was put in charge of the Joint Sar Subha's Office.

As Economic Adviser he visited 21 Talukas of the State during the year under Report.

During the year nine (9) new concerns were opened with an authorized capital of Rs. 35,96,000. They included a Bank subsidised by Government, a Cotton Mill, two Dyeing Factories, a Chrome-Leather Tanning Factory, and the Baroda Tramway Company. The total number of Joint Stock Companies registered during the last two years is 15 at an aggregate capital of Rs. 43,06,000 and affords a gratifying proof that the liberal and consistent encouragement to Industries, which is now a part of the policy of the State, is being increasingly appreciated and inspires, in conjunction with improvements in the general administration, confidence in the investing public. It further warrants the expectation that this satisfactory development will be maintained.

The Bank of Baroda, Limited.—For a long time it had been in contemplation to provide more adequate banking facilities of the modern type in the State for the development of commerce and industry. Negotiations with an existing Bank in Bombay bore no fruit, and the idea was revived after the new Economic Adviser was appointed, and upon mature consideration it was decided to assist local capitalists to organize their own Bank, with liberal concessions from Government. The out-come of efforts in this direction was the Bank of Baroda, Limited, which was started on 19th July 1908 and has an authorized capital of Rs. 20 lacs, to be issued from time to time as the business of the concern increases. The following concessions were granted to it by Government :—

(1). Government will deposit with the Bank without interest an amount equal to ($\frac{1}{4}$) one-fourth of the paid-up capital, but not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ lacs of rupees.

(2). Government will maintain deposits with the Bank equal in amount to ($\frac{3}{4}$) three-fourths of the paid-up capital but not to exceed $7\frac{1}{2}$ lacs of rupees in any case, at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, if and when considered necessary by the Directors, provided that the Bank maintains at all times within the State assets equal to the amount so deposited.

(3). The aforesaid concessions shall hold good for a period of (15) fifteen years.

(4). Government will pay to the Bank annually one-half of the salaries and expenses of management for a period of (5) five years on condition that the Bank engages an expert manager, and with the further proviso that the sum so paid shall not exceed Rs. 10,000 per annum.

(5). Government will turn over to the Bank from time to time such proportion of the State's banking business (*i.e.*, the receipt, remittance, collection, and payment of money or securities and other matters usually transacted by Bankers for their customers) as the prosperity and condition of the Bank may warrant, and as may be agreed to between themselves and the Directors.

(6). Government will appoint Auditors to audit the books, including the ascertainment of assets under clause 2 above, and accounts pertaining to its own business with the Bank, such audit to be at their expense; and it shall interpose no other supervision or interference with the Bank's affairs.

It is the object of the Department eventually to connect this Central Bank with a system of small local Banks operating as far as possible in every Taluka of the State and undertaking, if practicable, the financing of Co-operative Credit Societies in addition to individual loans to traders and agriculturists.

The organization and negotiations in regard to this Bank entailed much work, and serious consideration on all concerned, and it is to their conjoint efforts that the final shape given to the enterprize is due. The part taken by the Economic Adviser herein deserves special mention, for he has worked throughout with great zeal, assiduity and intelligence.

The Baroda Tramway Company.—The distance from the B. B. & C. I. Railway Station Baroda on the west to the city and thence to the Dabhoi Railway Station Goyagate on the south is about five miles and it was thought desirable to connect the two stations and the city with a tramway. Accordingly the Director of Commerce entered into negotiations during the year with several private parties with a view

to float a Company. Messrs. Karmally Brothers of Bombay and Baroda were selected by Government to carry out the project. The Company was registered on the 24th June 1908. A formal opening ceremony was performed, at which His Highness the Maharaja graciously attended and gave an address commending the enterprise and declared that the State was most anxious to shape its policy and administration in such a manner as to inspire confidence among the people to undertake such schemes and encourage them in carrying them out. In the week following the line from the B. B. & C. I. Ry. Station to the City was opened for traffic.

The Tramway line has come to be recognised as a public convenience of great value to the City and gives promise of success. Besides its intrinsic value, the necessity developed by it for widening some narrow Roads, which will conduce alike to the convenience of the people and the beauty of the town, is an advantage that should be set down to its credit. Already a free grant of Rs. 50,000 and a loan of Rs. 2,40,000 to the Municipality have been sanctioned for the purpose and possibly more will be needed as the line progresses. In this matter also, the exertions of the Director of Commerce deserve special mention.

Almost all the industrial undertakings in the State received State help either in the shape of loans or concessions such as the free use of land or exemption from custom charges. There is a common idea that any concession may be asked for because Native States are generous, but it would not be politic in the interests of these undertakings themselves to satisfy such an idea to its fullest extent, as that would be antagonistic to self-reliance and to an independent and healthy existence. And yet reason and experience suggest that reasonable concessions adapted to circumstances and calculated to foster true and wholesome development, and really needed for encouragement, can be granted with advantage.

To secure uniformity of treatment and check unregulated aspirations, the Department has been instructed to submit for consideration a definite State policy and it is hoped that the same will be formulated during the succeeding year.

Investigation of special subjects.—During the year, the Economic Adviser was engaged in an industrial survey of the whole State. A set of comprehensive questions was drawn up and sent to officers of the State and commercial people residing therein. The information thus received and also that collected by the Economic Adviser during his travels in the Talukas is being collected. It is hoped that it will be submitted to Government before long, as there has been some delay which might have been avoided. As a part of the industrial survey and as an important function of this Department, a systematic investigation of the raw materials to be had in the State is being made with a view to ascertain their economic value. One of the largest items in the export trade of the State is cotton seed transported for extracting oil, and a systematic study of its various problems was carefully made by the Economic Adviser and the information collected was laid before the Industrial Conference that met at Surat in December 1907. It is pleasant to record that a joint stock company has been floated for the purpose in the State.

Miscellaneous Industries.

Chrome-Leather Tanning.—Chrome-Leather Tannig is new on this side and yet a tanning factory will shortly become an accomplished fact. A company with a capital of Rs. 1,00,000 has been successfully floated and the State has conferred valuable concessions as an encouragement; one of them being the loan of the services of an expert whom it had engaged to teach the craft at the Technical Institute.

Mining.—The last Geological Survey of the State was made by Mr. Foote in the year 1893. In his otherwise interesting work, the question of Economic Geology was not thoroughly investigated and the State itself is not fully informed as to its mineral wealth. Therefore a new survey is proposed to be conducted as a complement to Mr. Foote's work and with that view, a loan of the services of Mr. Samba Shiva Rao Iyer was asked for from the Mysore Government to investigate the economic side. The Government also sent a graduate in Engineering to Calcutta to attend and qualify himself in the Geological School specially opened by the Government of India.

Seven exploring licenses were granted during the year, and Rules drafted for exploring, prospecting and mining licenses.

Pearl-Fishery.—The Beyt Harbour has been reported to be an "Ideal Harbour" for pearl oyster culture. Further investigations are being made to ascertain the possibilities of development.

Glass-Manufacture.—Sands and quartz from the Sankheda Taluka were sent to an Expert in Glass Manufacture for opinion. He has returned vases manufactured out of the sand with a very favorable report. Correspondence is in progress with local and Moffusil capitalists with a view to starting a Glass Factory in Baroda.

Salt.—There is a large deposit of natural salt at Okhamandal which might be utilized for the manufacture of soda, &c. Samples of this salt were sent to experts and again arrangements are being made to send samples for investigation on a large scale. A gentleman from Ahmedabad has undertaken to start this industry in Baroda if the report of the expert proves favorable.

Carpet Manufacture.—Complete information was collected for the establishment of carpet weaving in the State and in response to an advertisement in the *Adnya Patrika* and local papers, an Ahmedabad merchant came forward at the end of the year to open a factory in Baroda.

Other Industries.—Besides these paper-making, fibre plantation, hand-loom weaving, watch-making, Gopi-clay and other subjects engaged the attention of the Economic Adviser.

Commercial Intelligence Bureau.—Besides the investigation of special industrial subjects the Department has opened a Commercial Intelligence Bureau to supply information to the public on commerce and industries. Altogether there were 36 subjects on which the advice of the Department was sought and several people visited his office to inspect the literature and catalogues and to consult him personally.

Bureau of Statistics.—As a necessary adjunct to Commercial Intelligence Bureau this Department has been collecting statistics of trade, commerce and industries.

Co-operative Credit Societies.—During the year under report, 10 Co-operative Credit Societies were registered, thus making a total of 34 at the end of the year. Of these 34, twenty were affiliated to the Sadar Bank at Kodinar. This Bank has no capital of its own. It receives small annual contributions from the Societies affiliated to it and has been lending money to them from deposits received on their joint credit. On the whole its working is satisfactory and it is proposed to give some State contribution. Out of the remaining 14 Societies, three Societies were given an advance of Rs. 2,000 at 3 per cent. each to pay off the debts of their members and for the improvement of their lands. The remaining eleven are not reported to have worked at all during the year.

Under the Co-operative Credit Societies' Act, the Societies are required to manage their own affairs according to fixed rules. Among agriculturists it is difficult to find men who could undertake to manage these Societies and progress could not be rapid.

Agricultural Banks.—There are some Agricultural Banks not falling within the above class at Songhad, Vyara and Harij. During the year under report, they continued to work satisfactorily. The Songhad and Vyara Banks secured substantial Deposits (Rs. 42,253-6-8) and a sale of 305 shares. Encouraged by these results, small branches of the Songhad Bank were opened in the Peta Talukas at Nanchal, Varghat, Vajpur, and Salher, the Mahalkaris of these places having been advanced Rs. 500 each for the work.

During the year under report, the Visnagar Agricultural Bank was re-opened with a capital of Rs. 8,000. As it is not possible to work satisfactorily with this limited amount, proposals to increase its capital have been submitted to Government.

It appears possible to eventually organize a chain of local Banks financed in part by Government (through the Central Bank at Baroda) and in part by local subscriptions, as such banks are, if properly managed, likely to be more effective in relieving indebtedness than Co-operative Credit Societies, because of the backwardness of the ryot and his inability to Co-operate successfully on a formal business scale.

On the subject of these Societies and Banks, it may be finally remarked that even allowing for admitted difficulties, the progress made falls very short of expectations, and that less attention seems to have been paid as possibly other urgent matters occupied the energies of the Head of the Department.

To enable the Economic Adviser to get into touch with Indian conditions and enlarge his experience, he was allowed to attend conferences and witness and study exhibitions during the year under report.

Boiler Inspection.—The following table shows private factories using steam during the year under report as compared with those in the previous year :—

Kind of Factories.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Ginning Factories	61	62
Cotton Presses	8	9
Spinning and Weaving Mills...	2	3
Flour Mills	1	5
Dyeing Factories	4	5
Oil Mills	3	5
Rice Mill	1	1
Rope Machine	1	1
Sawing Machine	1	1
Water Pumps...	15	12
Chocolate Factory	1	1
Sugar Mill	1	1
Total ...	99	106

The boilers used in these Factories were inspected by the Boiler Inspector who noticed no infringement of the Act.

The expenses of the office were Rs. 1,204 against Rs. 1,214 of the previous year, and the income from fees, &c., was Rs. 2,335 against Rs. 2,248 of the previous year.

(*m*)—Registration.

The subjoined table gives the number of documents received for registration, their aggregate values, the gross receipts from them and the expenditure incurred for the years 1906-07 and 1907-08 :—

Year.	Number of Documents.	Their aggregate Values.	Gross Receipts.	Expenditure incurred.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1906-07 ...	24,830	91,01,806 2 7	81,507 1 0	32,862 11 0
1907-08 ...	27,766	99,31,497 3 2	91,776 8 7	34,170 11 4

The increase in the year under report in the number of documents is partly owing to the action of some of the Revenue Officers in discouraging mutations of names in the Revenue Register on account of transfers of land without the production of registered documents. The increase in expenditure is due to the purchase of some new furniture for some of the offices and law books, &c., for the use of all.

The following is a detailed classification of documents received for registration under different heads for the year under report and for the preceding year :—

	Classes of Documents.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Immoveable Property.	I.—Compulsory—		
	Gifts	192	225
	Sales	8,333	10,435
	Mortgage with possession	11,979	12,590
	Do. without do.	1,938	2,038
	Instruments of partition	312	313
	Leases (above 3 years)	486	555
	Others	504	577
	Total ...	23,744	26,733
	II.—Optional—		
	Leases for a term under 3 years	257	220
	III.—Wills and authorities to adopt	355	340
Moveable Property.	I.—Compulsory—		
	Money bonds above Rs. 1,000	30	39
	II.—Optional—		
	Money bonds below Rs. 1,000	80	89
	Instruments of pledges with possession ...	8	2
	Instruments of pledges without possession ...	34	26
	Divorce	22	23
	Others	290	294
	Total ...	1,086	1,033
	Grand Total ...	24,830	27,766

During the year under report, as in the previous year, both documents of mortgages with possession and sales have greatly increased while there is only a slight increase in the

case of mortgages without possession. The same causes seem to have operated to bring about this result as those in the preceding year, *viz.*, a greater amount of caution on the part of creditors. Nearly 25,000 registered documents related to mortgages and sales, and all other documents aggregate about 2,700.

Besides the Joint Sar Subha, the Head of the Department, and our District Registrars, there were 48 Sub-Registrars, and the offices of all these except three were inspected in the year under report. The scheme of paying regular monthly stipends to these Sub-Registrars and their clerks was permanently sanctioned in the beginning of the year and since then, they are being treated as regular State servants in every way.

Both the Inspectors of Registration performed their duties satisfactorily.

Companies.—Under the Companies' Act (Nibandh No. 3 of Samvat 1953) nine new Companies were registered in the year under report with a capital of Rs. 35,96,000. Of these six were registered in Baroda, two in the Kadi District, being all industrial concerns. The remaining one registered in Amreli is a Printing Press and Type-foundry. The total number of Companies existing at the end of the year was 29. Of these Companies, 4 are Provident Fund Societies, 3 are Printing Companies, and the remaining 22 are Industrial concerns. Owing to the evil repute into which the first of these classes has fallen, it would be well to keep a vigilant eye on their proceedings.

(*n*)—Stamps.

As before, the Accountant-General was in charge of the supply and sale of stamps, while the supervision of the arrangements and of the general working of the Stamp Act rested with the Joint Sar Subha.

The Revenue derived from the sale of stamps during the year under report as well as during the preceding year is shown in the following table :—

	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Court Fee	2,63,045	2,71,281
Documentary	1,57,275	1,81,618
Special Levies	8,823	9,945
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	16,702	23,413
Total ...	4,41,848	4,86,258

The increase is partly due to increased valuation of suits and appeals as mentioned in the chapter on the Judicial Department and also to an increase in the number of documents executed.

The following statement will show the expenditure incurred under the head of " Stamps " in the course of the last two years :—

Year.	Expenditure.
	Rs.
1906-07	28,201 0 11
1907-08	28,001 0 6

The new Stamp Act was passed and brought into force when the year under report was about to close.

The two Inspectors of Registration visited 10 stamp depôts, 6 vendors and 53 public offices during the year.

The Department referred 48 cases for the decision of the Varisht Court during the year. There were 54 cases pending decision at the close of the preceding year. Out of those 102 cases, 38 were decided by that Court during the year, having agreed with the Department in 32, and differed in 6. The number of cases pending decision in the Varisht Court at the close of the year was 64.

The arrears of references seem to be increasing in the Varisht Court. Considering the number annually sent up speedier disposal is naturally expected and as this is not the case, the attention of the Court is called to the circumstance in view to its taking the necessary steps.

The Subhas made 10 references to the Department under Section 34 (para. 1) of the Stamp Act of St. 1942, and in all of them the Department agreed with them. These references are for the remission or reduction of fine levied on documents insufficiently stamped. Seven applications were filed under para. 2 of Section 34, and all of them have been disposed of.

(*o*)—Printing and Stationery.

Printing.—The old contract for working the press and doing such printing as Government may require terminated with the close of the year but it was continued up to the end of January 1909 in order to enable Government to devise better and cheaper methods for doing such work.

The total cost for printing work during the year under report was Rs. 89,115 as compared with Rs. 85,031 of the previous year, thus showing an increase of Rs. 4,083-11-2. This was partly due to increased printing work required by the different Departments and the increased publication of draft bills of proposed legislation and of sanctioned Acts and Rules.

Stationery.—The total expenditure under stationery was Rs. 63,785 which shows an increase of Rs. 961 over the figures of the previous year—an increase so small as to call for no remarks.

V—JOINT REVENUE SECTION—(D).

(*p*)—Local Boards.

The number of District and Taluka Local Boards has remained the same during the year under report, being 4 and 39 respectively. The number of Village Boards in each of the four Divisions of the State was as under :—

Division.	Number of Village Panchayats.	
	1907-08.	1906-07.
Baroda	628	629
Kadi	777	777
Naosari	461	458
Amreli	218	218
Total ...	2,084	2,082

It will be seen that there has been an increase of 3 Boards in the Naosari District and a decrease of one in the Baroda District. This decrease was due to the amalgamation of two Village Boards into one in the Sankheda Taluka.

There was no change in the constitution of the Boards. The Subha of the Division continued to be the President of each of the four District Boards and the Naib Subha of the thirty-nine Taluka Boards while the Patel presides over the Village Boards.

The following table shows the number of members, official and non-official, on the District and Taluka Boards in each Division, and the average attendance at the meetings held :—

Division.	Members.				Average Attendance.		
	Elected.	Nominated.		Total.	Non-officials.	Officials.	Total.
		Non-officials.	Officials.				
Baroda	109	66	55	230	7·3	2·8	10·1
Kadi	131	85	59	275	7·3	3·0	10·3
Naosari	79	47	41	167	5·4	2·3	7·7
Amreli	50	29	28	107	4·7	2·5	7·2
Total	369	227	183	779	6·2	2·6	8·8

Out of the total number of members, *viz.*, 779—183 were officials and 596 non-officials and of these latter 369 were elected and 227 nominated.

The District Boards of Baroda and Kadi held 5 meetings each, while the District Board of Naosari held 16 meetings and that of Amreli 10. The attendance of members was very poor in the Amreli Division, while the Kadi and Naosari Divisions showed an improvement in this regard. The low attendance in the Amreli Division is accounted for by the fact that the several Talukas of that Division lie apart at a great distance and are not connected by Railway. But if people would not encounter personal inconvenience they should not accept the office. To yearn after the honour associated with the appointment and to shirk the trouble entailed thereby, is not the right view to take of their position. The local officials should explain to them this position and urge their influence to bring about improvement in this direction.

The rule as regards half-yearly meetings was complied with by the Taluka Boards in all the four Divisions. The number of meetings held by these Boards range between 4 and 9 in the Baroda Division, 3 and 10 in the Kadi Division. 5 and 12 in the Naosari Division and between 7 and 10 in the Amreli Division.

Income.

The income of the Local Boards amounted to Rs. 11,73,264 against Rs. 6,84,061 in the previous year, showing a net increase of Rs. 4,89,203 due to the special grant for water supply as shown hereinafter. The following statement compares the receipts under the principal heads with those of the preceding year.

Heads of Income.	1907-08.	1906-07.
	Rs.	Rs.
Contribution from Government—		
(*a*) In lieu of Local cess ...	3,65,000	2,84,000
(*b*) Revenue P. W. Grant ...	.....	87,000
(*c*) Grant for Vaccination ...	14,000	14,000
(*d*) Grant for Gramyashalas ...	2,40,000	2,00,000
(*e*) Jubilee Grant for Water-supply...	5,50,000	.....
Contribution from private individuals ...	251	3,207
Education (Income from compulsory schools, fines, &c.)	26	4,428
Miscellaneous	3,987	1,426
Total ...	11,73,264	6,84,061

The principal variations are explained below :—

The net increase under the head Government Grant in lieu of local cess was Rs. 81,000 and was due to the fact that the levy of the local cess has now been extended to all the Talukas in the State. The local cess demand for the year was

estimated at a little more than 5 lacs of rupees. After making the necessary allowance for collection charges at 2 per cent. and deducting one-fourth for the Reserve Fund, an allotment of Rs. 3,65,000 was sanctioned for the Boards. The income under this head is expected to increase in the next year owing to the general application of the cess. The decrease under the head Education is nominal.

The income from fines inflicted on parents for not sending their children to school under the Compulsory Act has not been assigned to the Local Boards, but the same is transferred to Government account and the decrease is due to this circumstance. It is satisfactory to note that people are realizing the benefits of the Act and the aversion to send children to school is diminishing.

Contribution from Government.—The net increase under this head is Rs. 4,13,000, and is mainly due to the large gift of Rs. 5,50,000 to the Boards for water-supply at the time of the Silver Jubilee of His Highness the Maharaja. The grant for Vaccination has remained the same. There has been a decrease of Rs. 50,000 in the grant for Gramyashalas but it is due to the fact that in the previous year, there was an additional grant for the initial cost of dead-stock and furniture. As there was an increase in the local cess revenue, there was no necessity to continue further the Revenue Public Works Grant of Rs. 87,000.

Contributions from private individuals fell off greatly and attained to almost insignificant figures during the year and the decrease under this head comes to Rs. 2,956.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure of the Boards amounted to Rs. 6,31,882 against Rs. 5,41,832 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 90,050. The following statement

shows the distribution of expenditure under various heads as compared with that of the previous year :—

Item.	Expenditure for 1907-08.	Expenditure for 1906-07.
	Rs.	Rs.
Administration	64,033	47,275
Civil Works	2,76,144	2,98,426
Education	1,79,075	1,43,174
Medical and Vaccination	14,181	14,059
Sanitation and other works of public convenience	1,182	1,076
Advances	2,279	19,541
Miscellaneous	81,692	18,281
Contribution from local cess to municipalities, &c.	13,296	.....
Total ...	6,31,882	5,41,832

Administration.—Under this head there was an increase of Rs. 16,758. It was due mainly to the cost of the additional inspecting staff required to cope with the additional work of inspection which the opening of more new Gramyashalas during the year gave rise to, and also to the grant of periodical promotions to the establishment of the Boards.

Civil Works.—This head shows a net decrease of Rs. 22,282. There was a large decrease of Rs. 35,000 in the Naosari Division owing to the fact that in the previous year, all the unfinished works of the years preceding it were then completed. The decrease is also due to the backward condition of the people and the consequent lack of interests in their own affairs as well as to the difficulty of sinking wells caused by the rocky condition of the country in some of the Talukas of that Division. The President of the Boards reports that the sanction to withdraw the balances of previous years having been received late in the year, it was not fully availed of but there was a very large sum of

the Jubilee grant at his disposal, and that could have been utilized during the year towards sinking wells. In the Kadi Division the expenditure decreased by Rs. 7,900 nearly, but this is attributed to economies effected in the various works connected with the construction of wells and resulting from the enthusiasm of the village people in taking up the works themselves to the exclusion of contractors. Such keen interest in their affairs is very commendable. The Baroda and Amreli Divisions show an increase of Rs. 9,000 and 8,678 respectively, as greater attention was paid to road and water supply works out of the Jubilee grant. The aggregate expenditure under this head comes to nearly 45 per cent. of the total expenditure as against 52 per cent. in the preceding year.

The following statement compares the charges under the various sub-heads of civil works with those of the preceding year :—

Items.	1907-08.	1906-07.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Communications—		
(*a*) Original Works	27,374 15 1	24,599 0 0
(*b*) Repairs	16,138 3 10	19,569 0 0
Total ...	43,513 2 11	44,168 0 0
Civil Buildings—		
(*a*) Choras—		
Original Works	30,541 9 10	34,471 0 0
Repairs	12,550 9 10	19,393 0 0
(*b*) Dharmashalas—		
Original Works	.....	.....
Repairs	.....	306 0 0
(*c*) Tile-turning and supervision, &c. ...	4,329 15 9	4,796 0 0
Total ...	47,422 3 5	58,966 0 0

Item.	1907-08.	1906-07.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Tools and Plant...	.....	.....
Water Supply and Water Works—		
(*a*) Wells—Original	1,24,162 4 7	84,463 0 0
Repairs	50,909 11 2	80,368 0 0
Total ...	1,75,071 15 9	1,64,831 0 0
(*b*) Tanks—Original	513 5 7	3,047 0 0
Repairs	3,782 4 11	16,352 0 0
Total ...	4,295 10 6	19,399 0 0
(*c*) Troughs—Original	3,014 2 3	2,649 0 0
Repairs	402 12 10	2,094 0 0
Total ...	3,416 15 1	4,743 0 0
(*d*) Other Works—		
Original	1,155 14 3	5,357 0 0
Repairs	1,268 8 4	960 0 0
Total ...	2,424 6 3	6,317 0 0
Grand Total ...	2,76,144 6 3	2,98,424 0 0

It was disappointing to find that the Local Boards of all the Districts did not take full advantage of the special Jubilee grant of Rs. 5,50,000 for water works so graciously sanctioned by His Highness in March 1907.

The above figures show that the largest expenditure was incurred on wells and that the expenditure on other works connected with water supply such as tanks, troughs, &c., was comparatively less. Expenditure on buildings shows also a decrease because in Naosari more choras were built in the previous year. The expenditure on communications shows only a slight decrease. The Boards are left much to themselves. General regulations and instructions only could be given in the first instance. Minuter ones designed to ensure systematic and regular work can only follow. It is likely that very few of these will be needed as it is expected that the intelligence and experience of these Boards will guide them to the right path. Such work as has been done hitherto is satisfactory. The leaders of the villages in all the Divisions and the village Punchayats of the Amreli Division have evinced keen interest in the works of their respective villages. The few works in which the aid of the State Public Works Department was sought, were the relief works executed by that agency at the expense of the Local Boards.

Education.—There was an increase of about Rs. 35,900 under this head which is shared in by all the Divisions, the total outlay incurred being Rs. 1,79,075 which is 28 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Local Boards. The increase is mainly due to the opening of new schools, to additions to the teaching staff, to the raising of the grades of school masters, whose salary was meagre, the purchase of furniture, the grant of scholarships and lastly the purchase of books and slates for very poor children and contribution to libraries. The number of village schools in the beginning of the year was 1,488 but the same increased to 1,588 by the end. of the year. Thus 100 more schools were opened during the year under report. The number of children who attended schools also increased considerably. It is satisfactory to note that even among the backward classes of Naosari, a desire has been created for educating their children and the President of the Amreli

Division suggests that the backward parts of the Gir and Okhamandal in the Amreli Division may be brought under the Compulsory Education Scheme.

It must be admitted that the equipment of the teachers of these schools for their task is not, in all cases, all that it should be, and therefore means are being taken and will be taken to improve their knowledge and capacity. The Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are directed to call meetings of the school-masters in their respective charges, and instruct them in the right methods of educating children. A monthly magazine called *Shikshak* is published, in the Kadi Division, with the same object by a Sub-Inspector named Mr. Narsinhbhai.

Medical Aid and Vaccination.—There is only a very slight increase under this head which does not call for any remarks. As mentioned in the section on Agriculture, vigorous attempts were made by the President of the Amreli Division to stamp out rinderpest prevailing among cattle in the Talukas of that Division. The Agricultural Department gave with alacrity and promptitude what aid was needed, and with the help of Vahiwatdars the people were prevailed upon to get their cattle inoculated. One good result has been that people are beginning to appreciate what at one time they had a prejudice against.

Miscellaneous.—The increase of expenditure under this head is Rs. 63,000 and is accounted for by the fact that the unspent balances of the grant for Gramyashalas fully drawn in the preceding year was refunded and the amount of the reserve fund paid up, on objection being taken by the Accounts Department during the year.

Contribution from Local Cess.—Half the amount of the local cess recovered from towns, *viz.*, Rs. 13,296 was contributed to the Municipalities of the respective towns according to

the principle laid down in the Local Boards Act, to be disbursed towards the performance of the duties falling under Section 26 of the Act within Municipal limits.

A great improvement was noticeable during the year under report in the working of the Village Boards in all the Divisions. They held regular meetings and discharged the duties imposed upon them fairly well. The number of matters disposed of by the several Village Boards was 2,254 in the Baroda Division, 1,177 in the Kadi, 1,314 in the Naosari and 1,131 in the Amreli Division.

956 works estimated to cost Rs. 4,83,564 were sanctioned by the Boards during the year. Out of these 558 worth Rs. 1,65,982 were completed and 398 remained unfinished, giving a percentage of 60 for works completed as compared with those sanctioned.

In addition to the important privilege conferred upon these Village Boards of making appointments and ordering dismissals and granting leave to all the village servants excepting the Patel, the Talati and the Havaldar, the Varisht Court is authorized to confer upon such of them as may be found deserving the power of trying certain petty criminal offences. The privilege conferred on the members of Taluka Boards, to examine pending applications in the Vahiwatdar's office in order to secure expeditious disposal and to make useful suggestions has been extended for a further period of one year, and it is satisfactory to note that the privilege has so far been exercised in a way not to lead to friction or to any exaggerated notion of their importance. The object in view seems to have been fairly realized.

The accounts of the Local Boards were duly examined and audited twice during the year by the Inspecting Auditors. The Assistant Joint Sar Subha inspected most of the offices of the Local Boards in the four Divisions and made useful sugges-

tions as regards their working and the sanitation of villages. The Joint Sar Subha also inspected a few offices and held discussions with the Presidents in regard to their working and the diffculties, if any, in their way.

General Remarks.—On the whole the working of the Boards shows progress although there is yet room for improvement. The rules are at times overlooked. An appreciable number of sanctioned works remains uncompleted. More of special and personal attention to these shortcomings is needed from the local officials and it is trusted that superior officers will not only set an example in this direction but take care to see that the subordinates follow it. In the initial stages of the development of these institutions, a great deal depends upon the sympathy and active co-operation of officers, high and low. It is noticed that greater interest is shown by the non-official members of the Boards and special mention is made by the Department of the good works done by Messrs. Jatashankar Jamnashankar and Varajbhai Vaghjibhai, Vice-Presidents of the Petlad and Siswa Taluka Boards, and Mr. Appaji Yeshvant More, Vice-President, and Mr. Kalidas Narandas, member of the Baroda District Board.

(*q*)—Self-Governing Municipalities.

During the year under report there was no addition to the class of Self-Governing Municipalities but Petlad raised to that status in the previous year commenced its work as such. The Baroda city and other nine municipal towns are of the Self-Governing class.

The constitution of these Municipalities has remained unchanged. The Subhas are the *ex-officio* Presidents of the Municipalities at Baroda, Pattan, Naosari and Amreli and the Naib Subhas occupy that position in the case of the remaining towns.

The following table shows the number of meetings held in each Municipality and the number of elected and nominated members :—

Name of the Town.	Number of meetings held.	Number of Members.		
		Elected.	Nominated.	Total.
Baroda	79	24	12	36
Dabhoi	9	10	10	20
Petlad	10	12	12	24
Pattan	4	12	12	24
Sidhpur	9	10	10	20
Visnagar	7	10	10	20
Naosari...	29	12	12	24
Gandevi	12	8	8	16
Billimora	5	7	7	14
Amreli	24	12	12	24
Total ...	188	117	105	222

The number of members during the year under report was 222 as against 198 in the previous year, the increase being due to 24 members of the Petlad Municipality being added to the list.

The number of meetings held during the year under report compares favourably with that in the preceding year. The Baroda Corporation held 79 meetings during the year as against 74 in the previous year. This large number is due to heavy work in the main, but it would also appear that with improvement fewer meetings will be necessary. Pattan and Billimora have had the fewest meetings. This would not be unsatisfactory, if all the work they had to do was got through, but still it requires explanation how a pretty large Municipality like Pattan could be content with such a limited number only. It is desirable to institute enquiries and apply a remedy should there be anything unsatisfactory.

Of the draft rules sent to the Municipalities for guidance, in respect of the various matters they have to deal with some have since been sanctioned and the rest are being discussed. When these are framed, it is expected that the work of these Municipalities will be lighter. The towns of Sidhpur, Visnagar, Naosari and Gandevi have shown fair progress in this connection. The attendance of non-official as well as *ex-officio* members was good. Instructions issued to the official members to devote more earnest attention to this important part of their duty have had the desired effect and it is satisfactory to note that the attendance of official members in the Baroda City Municipality has much improved.

INCOME.

The income of these Municipalities amounted to Rs. 3,76,566-2-4 against Rs. 3,74,157, showing an increase of Rs. 2,409-2-4. The following tables show the income of the Baroda and other Municipalities :—

Baroda City Municipality.

	1907-08.			1906-07.
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.
1. Grants from Government	1,30,000	0	0	1,30,000
2. Municipal Rates and Taxes—				
(*a*) Octroi	38,410	10	10	44,117
(*b*) Tax on Animals and Vehicles ...	4,031	14	9	3,935
(*c*) Tolls on Roads...	2,506	10	6	2,549
(*d*) Water Cess	38,665	5	9	57,883
(*e*) Conservancy Rates	33,894	14	0	34,644
3. Other sources of revenue	22,695	11	3	20,507
4. Miscellaneous	4,006	1	1	4,923
Total ...	2,74,211	4	2	2,98,558

The decrease of Rs. 24,347 in the income during the year under report is mainly due to a considerable decrease under the head water-cess. The realizations under this head were less than in the previous year owing to the circumstance that charges on account of water supplied to the Public Park were held in abeyance, pending settlement of the question as to whether or not the amount should be credited to Government Account. Government have, however, been pleased to direct in the current year that the sum may be credited to the Municipality. The income under octroi managed by Government and handed to the Municipality after deduction of the cost of collection, also shows a slight decrease partly on account of increased expenditure on the establishment of Inspectors and partly on account of abolition of the duty on ghee, worth one rupee and under. As the revenue under this head has fallen very short of the estimated income payable to the Municipality, the Government have been pleased to make good henceforward all deficit under Rs. 65,000, for each year.

Other B class Municipalities.

	1907-08.			1906-07.
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.
1. Grants from Government	22,500	0	0	15,393
2. Allotments in lieu of customs duties, tolls, excise, &c.	50,500	0	0	45,240
3. Other sources of revenue	10,164	11	10	5,559
4. Municipal taxes, Conservancy	6,044	7	4	4,379
5. Miscellaneous	132	12	3	543
6. Extraordinary and debts	13,052	14	9	4,485
Total ...	1,02,354	14	2	75,599

The increase under the first two heads is chiefly due to the addition of income under them pertaining to the town of Petlad. The fixed grants allotted to all the Municipalities in lieu of customs, tolls and excise as well as the special grants amounting to Rs. 1,52,500 to the towns of Baroda, Pattan, Visnagar, Naosari, and Amreli continued as before. The special grants, it may be noted, are to continue for 5 years only during which the Municipalities have to find out new sources of income. But as their receipts do not in most cases seem to be adequate, considering the duties imposed on them, all of them have requested Government to continue them for sometime longer. The necessity however of raising their income by imposing new taxes in order to meet their growing expenditure is persistently impressed on the Municipalities. As stated in the last year's report Dabhoi alone has taken the lead in this matter by levying a sanitary cess. Other Municipalities are advised to follow the example but no proposals have been received from any of them as yet.

The income under the third head, *viz.*, "Other sources of revenue" has nearly doubled and is accounted for by the additional source of revenue assigned to the Municipalities from the year under report, *viz.*, contributions on account of local cess by Local Boards, the principle laid down being that half the amount of the cess derived from towns should be made over to the respective Municipalities. This income is to be utilized by the Municipalities within the Municipal limits towards such works only as are imposed upon the Local Boards under the Local Boards Act. A portion of the unspent balances of the past years for the construction and repair of roads and for other sanitary improvements was withdrawn during the year by the Municipalities of Dabhoi, Billimora, Naosari and Visnagar; and this with a handsome donation by Mr. Byramji Nasarwanji Sirwai of Naosari for the construction of a park in that town, accounts for the increase under the head "Extraordinary and debts."

Expenditure.

The total expenditure incurred by the several Municipalities during the year under report amounted to Rs. 3,39,857-14-0 as against Rs. 3,68,098 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 28,240-2-0. The principal items of expenditure are shown below :—

Baroda City.

	1907-08.	1906-07.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs.
1. General Administration	30,952 8 6	25,664
2. Roads	60,316 7 3	58,753
3. Other Public Works	12,827 10 9	17,534
4. Conservancy	64,673 11 6	56,870
5. Road Watering	14,020 6 9	14,710
6. Lighting	19,568 4 9	17,510
7. Water Works	14,014 3 8	28,428
8. Other Charges	14,976 10 6	23,187
9. Drainage	17,208 7 0	56,351
Total ...	2,49,158 6 8	2,99,007

The decrease in expenditure is chiefly due to less expenditure on public works, water works and drainage. The cost of general administration has increased by Rs. 5,000 and is due to the post of the chief officer having been filled up during the year. The proper up-keep of the roads, conservancy arrangements and lighting show a slight increase, but greater attention is necessary. A large expenditure is needed to meet exigencies duly. The expenditure under drainage seems to have fallen off, but the decrease is only nominal. The Municipality has spent as much as Rs. 1,04,616 in addition,

which has not as yet been paid, owing to the account therefor remaining unadjusted between the Municipality and the P. W. D. of the State.

Other B Class Towns.

	1907-08.			1906-07.
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.
1. General Administration	6,937	8	3	7,169
2. Roads and other Public Works	20,172	6	11	11,058
3. Conservancy	30,283	10	9	23,095
4. Road Watering	4,569	9	11	1,368
5. Lighting	12,712	2	5	11,609
6. Other Charges	16,024	1	1	14,802
Total ...	90,699	7	4	69,091

The increase is general under all the heads excepting the first which shows a slight decrease. More attention seems to have been paid towards roads and other public works. Conservancy and lighting also seems to have attracted greater attention. Road watering received special attention at Pattan and Naosari. Excepting Petlad and Sidhpur other towns seem to be cognizant of this important Municipal function.

General Remarks.—The administration of these Municipalities has, on the whole, been fairly satisfactory and progressive. It is reported that the members have learnt to realize their responsibility and are showing increasing interest in Municipal affairs. The want of rules retarded somewhat the progress of these bodies, but now that the rules have been supplied them for guidance, it is hoped, there will

be less difficulty in securing system and regularity in their work. A set of draft bye-laws have also been framed by the Nyaya Mantri in consultation with the Joint Sar Subha and published for adoption by the Municipalities with such changes as they may deem necessary to suit their local requirements. Such defects as still remain in the working of these bodies will gradually disappear, as the local officers take increasing interest and accord due supervision and guidance.

One important event of the year was the opening of the Tramway Company under a lease of 30 years. A sum of Rs. 50,000 was given as a gift to the Baroda Municipality by Government for widening roads and a sum of Rs. 2,40,000 was advanced as a loan at a small interest of 3¼ per cent. for the same purpose.

The Joint Sar Subha and his Assistants inspected the Municipalities and made the necessary suggestions, and their accounts were duly inspected and audited by the officers of the Accounts Department.

(*r*)—MUNICIPALITIES MANAGED BY GOVERNMENT.

The number of the Municipalities managed by Government during the year under report was 25, there being 8 in the Baroda, 9 in the Kadi, 3 in the Naosari and 5 in the Amreli Divisions. As stated in the last annual report, the Petlad Municipality, which was transferred to the B class, commenced its work as such during the year under report.

The management of these Municipalities is vested in the General Committee constituted under the Act, presided over generally by the Vahiwatdars and Mahalkaries of the respective towns, and the executive work is done by a Managing Committee presided over by the same officials. The number of Meetings held by the several Municipalities ranges between 11 in Sojitra to 5 in Mehsana, Vyara and Kodinar.

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Income.

The following table shows the annual income of the Municipalities under different heads :—

Heads of Income.	1907-08.			1906-07.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
I.—Grant from Government—						
Ordinary	57,332	0	0	44,467	0	0
Special	20,587	2	10	20,942	0	0
Total ...	77,919	2	10	65,409	0	0
II.—Municipal Rates and Taxes—						
Water cess and Tolls	.....			114	0	0
Fees	45	9	0	134	0	0
Total ...	45	9	0	248	0	0
III.—Other sources of Revenue—						
Sale proceeds of land	6	0	0	15	0	0
Sale of manure	197	13	0	140	0	0
Receipts from markets and slaughter houses	225	10	4	245	0	0
Miscellaneous	3,332	1	9	4,529	0	0
Total ...	3,761	9	1	4,929	0	0
IV.—Contribution from Local Cess	7,511	3	10	.....		
Grand Total ...	89,237	8	9	70,586	0	0

(1) These Institutions are supported by Government grants, ordinary and special, which virtually represent the whole Municipal income in respect of these towns. Special grants are made according to the needs of each town for widening roads and other improvements. In addition to these grants, these Municipalities received Rs. 7,511-3-10 being half the amount of the Local Cess derived from the respective towns in which they are situated and it is expected that the increased income will go someway towards accomplishing much needed improvements for the benefit of these towns. The increase under the first head, *viz.*, Government

grant, is due to the fact that these Municipalities were formerly given grants at the rate of annas 4 per head of the population, but these being found inadequate for the discharge of their functions were increased to 5 annas per head from the year under report. Under the head Municipal rates and taxes, was included the income derived by the Sankheda Municipality on account of water-cess and tolls during the previous year. The corresponding figures for the year under report are not as yet available.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure incurred by the several Municipalities was Rs. 63,824-8-11 as against Rs. 46,208-0-0 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 17,616-8-11. The following table will show the heads under which the total expenditure was distributed :—

Heads of Expenditure.	1907-08.	1906-07.
I.—Administration	8,226 15 0	7,963
II.—Public Safety—		
Lighting	9,601 13 7	6,869
Fire	619 3 1	582
Total ...	10,221 0 8	7,451
III.—Public Health and Convenience—		
Conservancy	26,148 5 0	23,446
Public Works	17,811 2 8	6,657
Watering Roads	224 3 6	52
Planting of Trees	234 13 9	95
Tools and Plants	823 4 7	491
Miscellaneous	134 11 9	53
Total ...	45,376 9 3	30,794
Grand Total ...	63,824 8 11	46,208

It will be seen that the expenditure has increased under all the heads. Greater attention was paid to the lighting of towns and the planting of trees. The cost of administration has slightly increased. Special grants for widening roads and other improvements were utilized to a large extent by these towns and hence the increase under the head of Public Works.

Inspection.—Inspections of these institutions were made by the Joint Sar Subha, the Accountant General, Chief Medical Officer, the Subhas and the Naib Subhas. The Sanitary Commissioner visited almost all these Municipal towns during his tour and made suggestions for the improvement of sanitation, but owing to the backward condition of the people, it will take some time before they are fully acted upon.

General remarks.—The town of Dwarka gets a grant at the rate of 6 annas per head of the population. But it is found insufficient, since the place is visited by pilgrims every year during the fair season and the Municipality has to take particular care about the sanitation of the town. The streets—especially those leading to the temple—are very narrow and the population of the town is increasing. It is therefore, necessary to increase the grant and steps are being taken to that end.

It is under consideration to provide means for better sanitation and lighting in the towns of Kamrej, Velacha, Mahuva, and Palsana, where Municipalities have not been established. It is hoped that the Subhas and the Naib Subhas will lend increasing help every year not only in supervising more minutely the work of the Municipalities in their charge, but by instructing and guiding the people in the art of self-government and persuading them to take greater interest in their local affairs than they do at present.

(s)—Meteorological Observations.

The results of the readings taken at the second class Meteorological station in the Central Jail in Baroda city during the year under report show that barometer average monthly records were the lowest (29·494) in July and the highest (29·925) in January. The lowest temperature was on 19th February when the thermometer fell to 40·3°, while the highest point was reached on April 22nd when it rose to 110·3°. The mean temperature during the year was 75·3°.

The prevailing winds during the greater part of the year had a decided south-westerly component. The average daily velocity varied from 96 in October 1907 to 315 in June 1908, and the mean daily velocity during the year was 170 miles. The average daily humidity of the air for the year was 41·9 against 46·5 of the previous year.

(t)—Sanitation.

The Sanitary Commissioner travelled over all the four Districts of the State visiting the important towns and also some villages round about each and suggested sanitary improvements.

He also delivered popular lectures on sanitation during his tour. A tract on the Prevention of Plague was published during the year and distributed among officials, Local Boards and Municipalities.

During the year the Sanitary Commissioner submitted a scheme for the improvement of the Velacha Kasba which is waterlogged and insanitary. He was also consulted by other Departments or Departmental Councillors in important matters of sanitation, such as Military and Police lines, the Baroda Tramway Company's stables and the Baroda City Improvement Schemes.

(*u*)—Vital Statistics.

The number of births and deaths that occurred during the last three years in the State are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Births per mille.	Deaths per mille.
1905-06	42,883	46,221	21·9	23·7
1906-07	42,200	64,112	21·6	32·8
1907-08	47,330	47,730	24·2	24·4

The figures show that there is an increase in the number of births and a decrease in the number of deaths over the preceding year. This shows that the year under report was fairly good.

Of the total number of births there were 24,986 males and 22,347 females, that is, for every hundred female births 111·8 male births were registered. Of the total number of deaths 31,937 were due to fever, 6,384 to plague, 83 to cholera, 537 to small-pox, 1,067 to dysentery and diarrhœa, 119 to diseases of the respiratory organs, 463 to injuries of various kinds and accidents, and 7,140 to all other causes.

The rates per mille of population for the above deaths were 16·3, 3·2, 0·04, 0·2, 0·5, 0·06, 0·2, and 3·6 respectively.

The registration of deaths is, as mentioned in the previous reports, in the hands of non-professional men and consequently many deaths are returned under the head of fever simply because that complaint is the prominent symptom of many acute and chronic diseases.

The total number of attacks and deaths in the whole State from plague during the year were 9,485 and 6,384 respectively against 19,919 and 14,598 during the previous year. The rate of mortality from plague was 3·3 per mille of population during the year.

Inoculation.

One Assistant Civil Surgeon was engaged for about six months to conduct inoculation. He was able to inoculate only 102 persons as people did not come forward to undergo the operation, although he went from place to place, gave lectures and tried his best to persuade them to undergo it. Other medical officers at their respective stations made great efforts at inoculation and succeeded in operating on 141 persons. Thus the total number of persons who were inoculated was 243. The disappointing results are attributable to indifference on the part of the people. Nothing daunted by these results, Government perseveres in its efforts and the staff engaged is continued even during the current year. Better terms are offered to the staff over and above the fixed salary. They are to be paid an extra amount proportioned to the number of operations that they may perform.

(*v*)—VACCINATION.

The strength of the Department remained the same as in the preceding year.

The subjoined table gives the number of persons primarily vaccinated and revaccinated during the year under report, as compared with the previous year :—

Persons.	Primary Vaccination.		Re-vaccination.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Males	27,282	27,943	3,742	3,855
Females	25,162	26,228	600	420

The total number of persons operated upon during the year under review was 58,446 against 56,786 in the previous year. The increase is small and calls for no remarks.

The rate of protection afforded per mille of population was 26·2 against 25·4 in the foregoing year.

Animal vaccination was carried on in the City of Baroda by the City Vaccinator under the supervision of the Superintendent of animal vaccination.

The total expenditure incurred during the year under report was Rs. 14,929-8-10 against Rs. 13,763-3-9 in the previous year. The increase is chiefly due to the permanent travelling allowance sanctioned for Inspectors during the year under review.

During the year under report the Sanitary Commissioner was deputed to Belgaum to study the system of vaccinating children with glycerinated chloroformed lymph. It is proposed to introdue the system into the Baroda Taluka as an experimental measure. Two vaccinators were deputed in December last to Belgaum to learn the work.

VI.—JOINT REVENUE SECTION (E.)

(*w*)—Reserved Forests.

Mr. G. K. Mediwala continued in charge of this section.

Of the total reserved area of 7,31,535 bighas about 12,392 bighas were deforested in Waghodia, Sankheda, Dhari and Kodinar Talukas and 223 bighas were added, but this addition was due to detection of errors in survey in the Mahuwa and Vakal Peta Mahals. At the end of the year, the reserved area was 7,19,366 bighas.

Settlement and Demarcation.—The boundary between Songhad and Navapura (Khandesh) was verified during the year. Eighteen annual coupes for the year 1908-09 together with 2 remaining from the last year were marked on the ground by cutting clear lines 30 feet broad over a total length of about 36 miles and by erecting earthen cairns as usual.

Working plan.—Plans for the Vakal forests have been submitted by the Department and as several proposals contained in the Mahuwa and Vyara plans were found unworkable, important modifications were made therein during the year. It cannot be said that this is satisfactory work. Despite its inherent difficulties, it is possible that more progress can be made and it becomes necessary to impress upon the Department that greater attention should be paid and greater exertions put forward to produce better results.

Two coupes in Mahuwa and three in Vyara were worked during the year, fetching Rs. 14,066. In Sadadvel 4 coupes of the year and one standing over from the last year were worked yielding Rs. 12,191. These 10 coupes had after cutting 85,959 trees reserved as standards, which at the time of the next rotation are expected to fetch about four times the present yield. Besides all young growth below 12 inches girth was left intact.

Two coupes in Sankheda were worked departmentally and two by contract, fetching Rs. 830.

For the ensuing year 1908-09 two coupes in Mahuwa, 12 in Vyara and 5 in Sadadvel were prepared. Matured Babul trees numbering 6,092 were extracted from the Sankheda range realising Rs. 3,446. So far as practical work goes, the outturn is not unsatisfactory.

Communications.—The work of metalling the Vyara-Unai Road and Songhad-Vajpur Road was continued. The Songhad-Chimer Road was made serviceable for fully 3 loaded carts and extended up to Malangdeo. Two more roads were commenced during the year in Vajpur Peta, *viz.*, Var-pada-Mogran and Karod-Arkati. Special surveyors were employed to survey and make estimates. The Executive Engineer personally attended to the work, having paid frequent visits and there was an appreciable activity in this direction, which if continued, will result in providing much needed conveniences and so enhancing the value of the Forests.

Buildings.—Four pucca buildings, one in the Gir, one in Mahuwa, and two in Vyara were constructed for the subordinate staff and contracts given for 3 more. All the old buildings were thoroughly repaired during the year. Rs. 5,900 were spent under this head.

General Protection.—The number of offences detected during the year was 113. Of 13 prosecutions 11 resulted in convictions and the offenders were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Protection from Fire.—The work of cutting clean lines made fair progress during the year. The more important roads passing through the reserves were taken in hand and strict watch kept on offenders. Special attention was paid to the coupes already exploited, their isolation as well as that of

the other coupes from the adjoining forests by clean cut straight lines was effected, thereby saving 38 out of 42 coupes. The whole of the Mahuwa range was safe from fire and only 2 per cent. of the Sankheda Reserve was burnt, the worst being the Tapti range this year wherein nearly a three-fourth portion was burnt.

Protection from Cattle.—In the Sankheda and Gir Ranges, areas for grazing were set apart from areas for grass cutting to meet the grazing needs noticeable, and to secure the full utilization of grass from these Reserves. All the other ranges were wholly open to grazing, except the coupes worked during the last 5 years. The Pass system of regulating grazing continued in force. Unauthorized grazing was checked by impounding cattle, whose number, however, was only 317 though in all 55,447 cattle grazed in these Reserves.

Sylviculture.—Natural regeneration from seeds was fair, save in fire-burnt areas. Regeneration by coppice shoots in the exploited coupes was also satisfactory. Artificial regeneration was confined to these areas only. Sowing *in situ* was the rule except in the Mahuwa Reserves where plants raised in nursery were planted out with considerable success. The mango plantation at Unai (Vyara) was maintained and the Umrat reboisement was also continued. Trial plantations of rubber plants were made in the Tapti and Sankheda Ranges. The Para variety was a failure in both the places. Ceara, however, promises good results in Sankheda. It did not do well in the Tapti range, but a second trial there is considered necessary.

Fellings.—These were undertaken in the Sankheda, Mahuwa, Vyara and Sadadvel ranges only for which plans of working have been sanctioned. The remaining ranges are not yet called on to contribute their share to the forest revenue. For the last 15 years they are having a much-needed rest. The area treated in the ranges abovenamed was 6,958 bighas against 8,254 in the last year.

In addition to the total growth under 12 inches girth, 85,959 trees of varying sizes were allowed to stand over for the next rotation. The realisations from the rest came to Rs. 26,257, the material left on the area being about twice this value at present rates. It is expected that when these coupes come under exploitation a second time, they will yield four times the present revenues.

Minor Forest Produce.—Bamboos, the principal item under this head, were sold at the forest Nakas on passes ; dead fuel, grass, thatching material, gum, cigarette leaves, Mahuda flower fruit, were worked out by contract, the total realisations being Rs. 61,615.

Towards the end of the year, the subject of lac production was specially taken up and a further trial made after studying the system of artificial propagation obtaining in the Central Provinces.

Exploitation of Material.—Materials from boundary lines and coupe lines were cut departmentally. Purchasers were forthcoming in increasing numbers for the materials offered for disposal. Major produce fetched Rs. 80,332 and minor produce Rs. 1,24,922 against Rs. 44,494 and 12,872 for the year 1906-07. Passes were issued by the several depôt-keepers for certain materials, at fixed prices.

Free Grants.—Exploitation by free grants was regulated by the 'Chhapariya Kat Niyam' which allows free thatching material, cart-poles and axles, wood for ploughing implements, fuel, bamboos and small building materials worth up to Rs. 5 for *bona fide* home consumption to the ryots of the tracts mentioned in the rules. Rs. 8,709 worth of such material was given free against Rs. 7,359 in the last year.

(*x*)—Unreserved Forests.

The unreserved forests except those of the Vajpur and Nanchhal Sub-Talukas which are wholly forest tracts

continued under the management of the Revenue Department. Proceeds from 6 species of trees are credited to the Forest Department. During the year Rs. 5,376 were thus credited.

In the unreserved forests of Vajpur and Nanchhal cuttings were made departmentally in the Gundi, Sutkhadka and Bewan forests, fetching Rs. 10,088. The total realisations from unreserved forests came thus to Rs. 15,464.

Financial Results.—The arrears of the previous years were reduced from Rs. 13,637 to Rs, 8,687. The realisations of the year amounted to Rs. 1,92,900 out of a demand of Rs. 2,05,254 against Rs. 1,81,447 for 1906-07 and Rs. 1,54,426 for 1905-06. Adding Rs. 4,576 collected out of the out-standing arrears, the total realisations during the year were Rs. 1,97,476.

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 66,363 against Rs. 72,603 for 1906-07.

The work done has been very fair, and the forests are in a fair way of realizing the objects for which they have been designed.

II.—LAND SETTLEMENT WORK.

(a)—Survey Settlememt Work.

During the year under report the post of the Survey and Settlement Commissioner was held by Mr. G. R. Nimbalkar who guided its operations with his usual energy and ability.

During the year under report the post of Mapni Sarkamdar was held by Mr. G. S. Bhate, that of Prat Sar Kamdar by Mr. R. N. Ambegaokar, and that of Assistant, Survey Department, by Mr. R. H. Desai.

This year an additional City Survey Enquiry Office was newly organised for the Towns of Petlad, Dabhoi, Naosari, etc. Its annual cost will amount to Rs. 9,120.

During the year under report field by field measurement work was done in 171 villages against 101 villages in the preceding year: original classification work was done in 82 against 74 villages in the preceding year, and revision classification work was done in 168 against 59 villages in the preceding year.

The field work of the Kamrej, Sankheda and Dhari Talukas has been finished and that of Vajpur, Nanchhal, Sidhpur, Savli and Kodinar is being done. The classification work of the Amreli and Sankheda Talukas and the Tilakwada Peta Mahal has been finished.

Proposals for the Revision Settlement of the Dabhoi Taluka were submitted to Government during the year under report.

The Jamabandi office introduced new settlement rates in 31 Government villages and 9 Inami villages and revision settlement rates in 153 Government villages and 9 Inami villages. It also examined and checked the Revenue papers and approved the Jamabandi of 434 Government and 28

Inami villages. 290 copies of village maps were prepared and sent to the Photo-zinco Press at Poona for printing; 43 maps of statistical atlas were also prepared and 5,371 Tumars regarding corrections to be made in the survey papers were disposed of.

The City Survey Party finished the work of house to house survey in the City of Baroda and the Petlad Kasbo. It did the measurement of 6,940 houses. It also commenced work in the Naosari Kasbo and completed the measurement of 393 houses, thus making in all 7,333 as against 2,598 houses measured last year.

The City Survey Enquiry Office enquired into and passed decisions about 2,010 survey numbers in the City of Baroda during the year under report against 2,739 in the preceding year. It also prepared 1,164 sanads to be awarded to the holders of properties against 1,205 in the preceding year. The work seems to have suffered a little on account of the demise of the Joint Enquiry Officer and the office having had to attend to many extra cases that came up for disposal from the Compensation and Sudhrai Offices.

36 appeals were left undecided last year and as 74 new appeals were preferred during the year under report, the total came to 110 appeals. Of these 66 have been decided against 50 in the last year leaving 44 undisposed of.

10 petitions were pending enquiry at the end of the year 1906-07; and 139 were received during the year under report. Only 10 petitions remained undisposed of at the end of the year under report.

The Survey Records for the year under report were arranged in accordance with the Record Rules in force.

The Settlement Commissioner inspected the Choranda Mahal Office and inquired into the condition of the Ankadia villages of the Vadavli and Pattan Talukas.

The Department feeling the necessity of having a handy book of reference, got atlases prepared for each Taluka showing certain information about markets, Government buildings, dharmashalas, post offices, etc. Under recent Huzur orders the department is instructed also to prepare a statistical atlas for the whole Raj on the model of a similar atlas which was issued by the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, in 1906, containing information regarding the out-turn of crops and the capability of soils and various modes of intensive cultivation and showing as well by suitable colours areas which are liable to be affected by famine and scarcity in years of drought and high prices.

(*b*)—Barkhali Branch.

Taravni Patraks—(detailed statements about Barkhali land).—The temporary establishment entertained for copying torn Taravni Patraks finished the work of three Talukas together with that of 12 villages of the Baroda Taluka and 23 villages of the Savli Taluka. There has been some decrease in the out-turn of work due to a curtailment of the establishment.

Record Work.—The temporary establishment for arranging records finished the work assigned to it.

Nazarana Patrak Work.—A temporary establishment specially entertained for the purpose prepared Nazarana Patraks.

Kadim Barkhali Land.—3,321 decisions about Kadim (old) Barkhali lands in Inami villages were passed and it is gratifying to state that very few now remain to be passed. The temporary establishment for the execution of Kadim work issued 4,551 settlement notices in 160 Inami villages, and prepared 76 Barkhali Patraks. It is expected that the work will be finished by the end of June next, when the sanction for this establishment expires.

Besides the orders passed about Barkhali land as mentioned above, 50 orders were recorded in regard to land under enquiry in Sarkari villages exclusive of Petlad. In 228 cases, further claims about Barkhali land already settled were disposed of. In 158 of these claims land measuring 1,374 bighas assessed at Rs. 2,189 was resumed. In 47, land with an aggregate area of 885 bighas and assessed at Rs. 2,441 was continued as Barkhali, and in 23, involving 328 bighas of land and assessed at Rs. 891, previous orders were confirmed. In Petlad where the Barkhali settlement is being introduced, 119 further claims about Barkhali land, already settled were disposed of. In 76 of these claims, land measuring 231 bighas was continued with a settlement charge, in one, 72 bighas were resumed, in another, 281 bighas were resumed, but temporarily continued at 8 annas in the rupee for life, and in the remaining 41, previous orders were confirmed.

Barkhali Land Succession.—3,755 land succession cases were disposed of against 2,179 in the preceding year. In 543 of these cases Rs. 8,579 were charged as Nazarana. Land measuring bighas 232 and assessed at Rs. 419 was bought up for Rs. 4,494. The increase in the number of succession cases is due to a large number (2,392) having sprung up in Petlad.

Barkhali arrears.—Rs. 5,099 of Barkhali arrears were written off and Rs. 1,113 refunded in the year under report. Last year's figures were Rs. 3,274 and Rs. 2,237 respectively.

Barkhali Patraks.—Two special Kamdars appointed to prepare final Barkhali Patraks for the Baroda and Petland Talukas finished 61 patraks for the villages of the former and 14 for those of the latter. They also disposed of 1,582 land succession cases and prepared 49 Barkhali Patraks of the Vyara Taluka. This year more work is done owing to the entertainment of a temporary establishment.

Resumption of Barkhali Land.— Bighas 6,527 assessed at Rs. 11,493 lapsed to Government or were resumed owing to the following causes :—

Failure of heirs, resignations, non-payment of settlement charges or non-performance of Devasthan service, mortgage and sale of Devasthan lands, death of Bathamania, Garania and Vechania land holders, fixing of Kothali Sánth in lieu of land, purchase of Barkhali land, and resignation under Section 9 of the Public Institutions Act. Last year 4,432 bighas assessed at Rs. 8,177 lapsed or were resumed.

Village Cases.—Orders regarding 12 Inami villages were passed. Of 12 villages 5 were resumed, 3 continued without any charge, and the remaining 4 continued with certain charges. The Government assessment realizable on the 5 villages resumed is Rs. 24,773 and the charges referred to come to Rs. 2,450 a year.

In the Cash branch 210 claims were dealt with. The amount claimed was Rs. 18,781, out of which Rs. 9,597 were continued. Last year's claims were 212 and the amounts continued and discontinued were, respectively, Rs. 14,417 and 15,236. Three allowances of the annual value of Rs. 119 were purchased at Rs. 2,019.

Non-guaranteed Giras Work.—137 claims of non-guaranteed Girasias were disposed of. Out of Rs. 3,407 claimed, Rs. 3,224 were continued and Rs. 183 discontinued.

Vatan Branch.—In the Vatan branch 28 claims were dealt with against 39 in the previous year. Of these 3 were original cases, 3 related to succession and 10 to compensation and 12 were miscellaneous ones. The amount claimed was Rs. 4,371, out of which Rs. 3,230 were continued on condition of service and Rs. 1,141 discontinued. Vatans valued at Rs. 836 were purchased at Rs. 5,207. There is a smaller number of claims this year owing to the rule that a Vatan case is to be taken up only when succession occurs.

Inam Chakari.—A special clerk lent by the Revenue Department was employed to work at the Petlad Inam Chakari Daftar, 621 persons claimed Inam Chakari in thirty-eight villages and their claims were duly enquired into and disposed of, while as regards Patel Chakari cases there were passed 10 original decisions, 3 decisions on appeals and 2 on revision shares of Mátadars in hereditary village service in Petlad and Siswa were determined and the Rotation order books for the Patels of two talukas were taken through the press.

Appeals to the Huzur.—112 appeals were preferred to the Huzur against the orders of the Department. Of these 82 were rejected, 13 upheld, 15 remanded to the Department for revision, and 2 were pending disposal. Last year's figures were 93, 2 and 2. The increase in appeals is due to the Chakariat work of the Petlad Taluka.

Sanads.—154 Sanads were issued, 29 being of the 1st class and 125 of the second. The number of sanads issued last year was a great deal more, being 941, owing to a special establishment having been maintained for the work.

Loans.—In the Loans branch five new loans aggregating Rs. 47,800 were advanced. The balance due to Government on account of loans at the end of the year under report was Rs. 4,09,190, while recoveries in the year amounted to Rs. 39,789.

Inspection of Talukas.—The Settlement Commissioner inspected the Patan, Visnagar, Kheralu and Choranda Talukas. The same defects as those mentioned in the last year's report were noticed, *viz.*—(1) the orders of the Settlement Department were not properly kept, (2) the Barkhali land succession work was not taken up in time, and (3) the superior Revenue officers did not inspect Barkhali matters in the way

they ought. This is not creditable to those concerned, but it seems there will be no complaint on this score hereafter as the Department has debarred Vahivatdars from drawing their pay until they set right the Barkhali records. During the year under report principles were laid down in regard to certain minor questions about Inami villages, allowances for Chowghadia and the maintenance of widows of Varshasan holders and pension to Asamdars.

Other important orders passed in connection with Barkhali land were—the addition of 2 annas to settlement charges in lieu of the occasional Nazarana chargeable under sanad No. II and the grant of ownership to Barkhali holders over the trees in their holdings on certain conditions.

Expenditure.—The accounts of the Survey and Barkhali branches are, as usual, kept together. The total expenditure of the Survey and Settlement Department was Rs. 2,53,436 against Rs. 2,54,975 in the preceding year.

(c)—Giras Tenures.

During the year under report Mr. Vinayak A. Mehd continued as Giras Assistant. Giras Sub-Assistant Mr. Chaturbhai Ranchhod retired in October last and was succeeded by Mr. Ambaidas Kalidas Patel, B.A., LL.B., and in this way the idea long entertained of strengthening the Department, when practicable, by importing capable men from outside was put into operation after the retirement of Mr. Chaturbhai. Mr. Patel assisted the Giras Assistant in finishing the work of preparing registers of guaranteed lands. Mr. L. G. Ghanekar whose special duty as Joint Giras Assistant consisted in representing the State at the Giras Conference, and disposing of certain arrears of work, completed his appointed task by the end of September.

The Giras office had, as usual, to perform the following work :—

(1) Judicial—

(*a*) New claims to lands by Guaranteed Girasias.

(*b*) New claims to cash by Guaranteed Girasias.

(*c*) Succession cases.

(*d*) Claims by co-sharers.

(*e*) Miscellaneous claims.

(2) Correspondence with the Residency.

Work coming under the first head referred to above and done during the year under report is shown in the following table :—

Office Cases.

Nature of Cases.	Balance from the previous year.	Cases filed in 1907-08.	Total.	Disposed of within the year.	Pending at the end of the year.
New claims to land ...	24	14	38	15	23
New claims to cash ...	...	...	...	...	...
Succession cases... ...	27	59	86	73	13
Claims by co-sharers ...	7	30	37	36	1
Miscellaneous claims ...	49	134	183	151	32
Total ...	107	237	344	275	69

The disposal of new claims to land does not seem to be quite satisfactory.

Work coming under the second head, *viz.*, references to the Residency, is shown in the following table and is obviously satisfactory:—

Balance from the previous year.	Fresh references in 1907-08.	Total.	Disposed of in 1907-08.	Pending at the end of the year.
1	162	163	163	...

Against the decisions of the Giras Assistant, appeals were heard by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, the result of which is shown as under:—

Pending at the end of the previous year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Decisions confirmed	Decisions reversed.	Decisions modified or remanded.	Pending at the end of the year.
44	55	99	36	13	8	42

The arrears are such as to demand attention and every possible effort should be made to reduce them. The department has been specially asked to report on the condition of this work even before the close of the current official year.

With respect to appeals preferred to the Residency against the orders of the Settlement Commissioner, 22 decisions were received from that authority as shown below :—

Decisions confirmed.	Decisions reversed.	Decisions revised, modified, remanded, &c.	Total.
12	3	7	22

The corresponding figures for the last year were 10, 5 and 11.

During the year under report, the Residency suggested that cash Giras Haks of Rs. 5 and under of non-tributary Girasias might be bought off at twenty years' purchase, as such an arrangement would lessen work all round and save the Girasias the trouble and expenditure of going to long distances for insignificant sums. The department fell in with the suggestion and purchased 89 of such Haks of the aggregate value annually of Rs. 217 for a lump sum of Rs. 4,338.

During the year under report, the Giras Assistant visited 14 Taluka Cutcheries and inspected the Giras work done therein, as well as the records.

The total expenditure of the office during the year under report was Rs. 11,184 as against Rs. 12,830 in the preceding year.

VIII. FINANCE.

(*a*) Branches of the Department.

Mr. Dayabhai Harjivandas Nanavati, B.A., continued to hold the post of the Accountant-General during the year except for a period of one month during which time he was on privilege leave and Mr. Balvantrao Abaji Patwardhan, the Assistant Accountant-General, acted for him.

As mentioned in previous reports the functions of the Finance Department are threefold, *viz.*, Audit, Accounts and Finance. It is needless to reiterate the nature of this threefold work as it is mentioned in previous reports.

For convenience of work, the Department is divided into nine branches and a brief account of their work is given below :—

(1) The Main or the Correspondence Branch, which is the controlling and directing office of the department, disposed of 27,660 matters against 20,085 in the previous year, a balance of only 106 undisposed of matters having been left at the close of the year.

(2) The Civil Audit Branch, in charge of the Assistant Accountant-General, which examines all vouchers excepting those relating to the Public Works and Military Departments, disposed of 103,142 vouchers against 70,133 in the previous year, and Rs. 4,680 paid through mistake were recovered

During the year under report 117 new pensions were sanctioned and 18 pensions ceased through death. At the close of the year the total number of civil pensioners was 455 who drew an aggregate amount of Rs. 93,965 during the year.

(3) The Military Audit Branch disposed of 4,607 vouchers against 4,580 in the previous year and Rs. 276 paid through mistake were recovered. 37 new pensions were sanctioned during the period. The total number of Military pensioners at the close of the year was 640 drawing an aggregate amount of Rs. 54,870 during the year. The Assistant Accountant-General in charge of this branch inspected the accounts of several Military Karkhanas over and above his own office work.

(4) The Public Works Audit Branch continued to exercise audit control over Public Works, Railways, A class Municipalities and the Baroda and Visnagar Banks. The accounts of the Baroda Municipality (B) class were also audited in this office. About 26,897 vouchers against 25,566 in the previous year were audited, and errors aggregating Rs. 1,239 in respect of irregular or overcharges were discovered.

The inspection of His Highness' Railway accounts at Bombay and Ajmere was continued as before. The inspection falls under two heads—that about receipts realized, and that about expenditure incurred. As a result of the audit of the

receipt side of the accounts, errors and omissions amounting to Rs. 5,020 were detected and these were mostly accepted by the Railway authorities. The audit of the expenditure side of accounts resulted in a refund of Rs. 22,874 on account of the outlay wrongly charged to capital in the rebuilding of some culverts on His Highness' Mehsana-Patan Railway, in a reduction of Rs. 1,827 for supervision charges in the purchase of new engines for the Dabhoi Railway by the Railway Authorities, and in the admission by the British Government of the claim to $\frac{3}{10}$th share of rent payable by it on account of quarters occupied by the British Police on His Highness' Petlad Railway. The question with regard to the use of Baroda stamps on indemnity bonds or on any other document executed within the jurisdiction of His Highness' Government, and a few more questions of minor importance are pending settlement.

(5) The Inspection Branch continued the inspection of accounts of all the Departments except the Military and Public Works, by actually taking stock of treasure and scrutinizing local accounts. The Assistant Accountant General in charge of this Branch travelled 220 days in the Districts and inspected 190 offices.

In addition to this, 52 offices were inspected in the Baroda city in the rainy season, and errors amounting to Rs. 5,092 were discovered.

(6) The Local Boards Inspection Branch, consisting of one Inspecting Auditor for the Baroda and Naosari Districts and another for the Kadi and Amreli Districts continued the inspection of accounts of the District and Taluka Local Boards and (B) class Municipalities. The cost of their establishment amounted to Rs. 5,327 against Rs. 5,256 in the previous year ; and the same was met out of the deduction of one per cent. made on the annual receipts of the Boards and the Municipalities. The inspection of the Baroda City Municipality accounts was entrusted to a separate auditor. The auditor for Kadi and Amreli travelled for 240 days and that for Baroda and Naosari for 228 days. They visited all the Talukas in their charge twice. The Peta Mahals, however, were visited only once. These auditors examined in all 4,269 vouchers and detected errors on account of overcharges, etc., for Rs. 7,192.

(7) The compilation of Accounts Branch did the usual work of compiling accounts from daily and monthly sheets, &c.

(8) The Central Treasury was, as in the previous year, in charge of Mr. Anandrao Govind Dighe. The total receipts during the year, including adjustments in the treasury, amounted to Rs. 4,73,61,068 and the total disbursements to Rs. 4,76,95,524. The cash receipts and disbursements came to over 64 lacs and 68 lacs respectively, giving a monthly average of over 5 lacs in receipts as well as in disbursements.

The cash balance in this treasury at the close of the year under report was Rs. 15,41,982 against Rs. 18,76,438 in the previous year. The transactions carried on with the Bank of Bombay including its Surat, Broach and Ahmedabad Branches amounted during the year to about 1 crore and 40 lacs in remittances and 1 crore and 37 lacs in withdrawals.

(9) The Stamp Branch continued to do its work under the supervision of the Central Treasury Officer. The revenue from the sale of stamps during the year was Rs. 4,86,258 against Rs. 4,41,848 in the previous year.

Cloth stamp papers of various values of the higher kind numbering about 9,050, which were in stock for a long time and were not likely to be of use for some years to come, were converted into those of smaller values under sanction from the Huzur.

In addition to doing the regular work of the Department, the Accountant-General worked as a member of the Council and as President of the Committee appointed to dispose of old and useless ornaments as well as of that appointed to inspect the articles purchased by His Highness in Europe during the 7th Europe trip and received here, and as a member of the Legislative Council.

The Accountant-General speaks favourably of the work done by his several Assistants and the Superintendents and his own work deserves to be characterised as intelligent and highly satisfactory.

(*b*)—Receipts and Disbursements.

The receipts and disbursements of the year under review, as compared with those of the previous years, are shown in the following tables :—

Receipts.

Description of Items.	1906-07.	1907-08.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	1,00,83,899	74,98,401	.....	25,85,498
Miscellaneous Taxes	1,68,626	1,40,783	.....	27,843
Forests	1,72,911	1,97,478	24,567	.....
Abkari	9,00,936	9,80,103	79,167	.....
Customs	7,81,310	6,08,225	.....	1,23,085
Stamps	4,41,848	4,86,258	44,410	.....
Registration	80,766	91,306	10,540	.....
Tributes and fixed Jamabundi received through the Residency	7,16,835	8,02,298	85,463	.....
Tributes and fixed Jamabundi received direct	8,175	8,300	125	.....
Interest	4,62,690	4,95,175	32,485	.....
Local Cess	6,45,307	6,19,323	.....	25,984
Village Boards' Revenue	8,655	13,356	4,701	.....
Opium	35,83,529	25,55,813	.....	10,27,716
Railways	5,67,071	6,72,971	1,05,900	.....
Sugar Factory	9,109	.....	.....	9,109
Palace 18/A	.....	.....	.....	.....
Judicial fees and fines	60,879	66,123	5,244	.....
Jail	19,103	19,500	397	.....
Education	96,769	92,855	.....	3,914
Municipalities	3,050	2,900	.....	150
Public Works Department	39,792	2,52,503	2,12,711	.....
Miscellaneous, including Salt, Ferries, Police, Medical, Press, Army, Bank, General Administration 18/B and Miscellaneous	1,68,438	2,15,746	47,308	.....
Total ...	1,89,69,698	1,58,19,417	6,53,018	38,03,299

Disbursements.

Description of Items.	1906-07.	1907-08.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	19,68,416	19,89,979	21,563	.....
Other Civil Establishments ...	1,12,539	1,15,842	3,303	.....
Forests	72,603	66,363	.....	6,240
Stamps	28,198	27,998	.....	200
Registration	33,289	34,072	783	.....
Tributes	1,643	139	.....	1,504
Opium	15,58,241	12,02,125	.....	3,56,116
Railways	.....	.....	.....	.....
Palace	23,11,053	22,96,534	.....	14,519
Huzur Cutchery —				
1 Tour expenses	3,74,397	95,204	.....	2,79,193
2 Huzur Cutchery	4,47,299	4,07,375	.....	39,924
Judicial Department...	3,59,615	3,85,639	26,024	.....
Police	7,19,936	7,64,429	44,493	.....
Jail	48,094	50,730	2,636	.....
Education	7,97,615	9,70,122	1,72,507	.....
Medical	1,81,349	1,86,212	4,863	.....
Printing Press	79,624	82,939	3,315	.....
Municipalities	2,54,269	2,71,906	17,637	.....
Public Works	15,26,537	17,28,770	2,02,233	.....
Army	21,93,828	21,30,897	.....	62,931
Devasthan Dharmadaya	3,34,372	3,12,020	.....	22,352
Assamdars, Nemnookdars and Pensioners	6,98,310	7,52,585	54,275	.....
Extraordinary	24,003	16,945	.....	7,058
Local Boards	11,58,601	5,86,740	.....	5,71,861
Miscellaneous (Interest, Miscellaneous, Local and Village Boards, Irrigation, Sugar Factory, Ferries and Miscellaneous)	1,54,086	7,78,405	6,24,319	.....
Total ...	1,54,37,917	1,52,53,976	11,77,951	13,61,898

Under receipts the following heads show an appreciable increase:—

(*a*) *Forests*, Rs. 24,567.—This amount is due to larger sales of forest produce.

(*b*) *Abkari*, Rs. 79,167.—This increase is due to extra duty due from the Naosari Abkari Izardar for extra liquor sold in the previous year but adjusted in the year under report.

(*c*) *Stamps*, Rs. 44,410.— This increase is attributable to the greater sale of court fee and documentary stamps.

(*d*) *Registration*, Rs. 10,540.—The increase is ordinary and is due to the registration of documents under the Registration Act.

(*e*) *Tribute*, Rs. 85,463.—This increase is due to the recovery of some arrears as well as to adjustment on account of remissions of Mahikantha and Palanpur tributes.

(*f*) *Interest*, Rs. 32,485.—This is due to the further investment of about 11 lacs in 3½ per cent. Government Securities and also to increase in interest on fixed deposits.

(*g*) *Railway*, Rs. 1,05,900.—This is mainly attributable to increase in the receipts of our narrow-gauge line (the Dabhoi-Block).

(*h*) *Public Works*, Rs. 2,12,711.—This increase is merely nominal. It is due to the adjustment of items originally charged to Famine Relief, but now transferred to their proper head under Public Works as they relate to certain roads in Okhamandal made during the Famine year as well as to the adjustment of cost of certain Irrigation Works now transferred to Capital Account.

(*i*) *Miscellaneous*, Rs. 47,308.—This is due to the Bombay City Improvement Trust Bonds having been purchased at discount as well as to various ordinary causes.

The main heads showing decrease under receipts are :—

(*a*) *Land Revenue*, Rs. 25,85,498.—This large decrease is due to the suspension and remission of land revenue in several Talukas of the Raj, on account of failure of rain in the latter part of the Monsoon.

(*b*) *Miscellaneous taxes*, Rs. 27,843.—This is mainly due to the raising of the minimum limit of taxable income from Rs. 500 to Rs. 750.

(*c*) *Customs*, Rs. 1,23,085.—This is due to the year being not prosperous to the agricultural classes. The cotton crop was less than what it was in the previous year.

(*d*) *Local Cess*, Rs. 25,984.—This is due to the suspension of land revenue in some Talukas.

(*e*) *Opium*, Rs. 10,27,716.—This is due to decrease in the sale of chests of opium in Bombay by about 700 as well as to the low price obtained.

Under disbursements the principal heads showing an appreciable increase in expenditure are :—

(*a*) *Land Revenue Administration*, Rs. 21,563.—This increase is due to ordinary causes, as well as to the payment of grain compensation to low-paid servants including village servants.

(*b*) *Customs*, Rs. 10,565.—This increase is due to the payment of grain compensation to low-paid servants and to the employment of temporary hands.

(*c*) *Judicial*, Rs. 26,024.—This increase is due to the transfer of Fouzdari Karkoons to the Judicial Department from the Revenue Department as well as to the payment of grain compensation to low-paid servants.

(*d*) *Police*, Rs 44,493.—This increase is due to the revision of the grades of Fouzdars and the payment of grain compensation to low-paid servants of the Department.

(*e*) *Education*, Rs. 1,72,507.—This large increase is mainly due to the development of compulsory education and also the payment of grain compensation to low-paid servants as well as to ordinary causes.

(*f*) *Municipality*, Rs. 17,637.—This increase is due to the increase made in the grants of Municipalities.

(*g*) *Public Works*, Rs. 2,92,233—This is due to greater expenditure on original civil buildings.

(*h*) *Assamdars and pensioners*, Rs. 54,275.—This increase is due to the payment of arrears on succession as well as to the compulsory retirement of some Vahiwatdars and Aval Karkoons.

(*i*) *Miscellaneous*, Rs. 6,24,319.—This large increase is due to the closing of the Sugar Factory and the consequent writing off of the whole loss both under Capital as well as under Debt head and also to the remission of tribute.

The following heads show decrease in expenditure during the year :—

(*a*) *Opium*, Rs. 3,56,116.—The decrease is due to less sale of opium in Bombay leading to a diminution in the amount of the pass-duty paid.

(*b*) *Tour expenses*, Rs. 2,79,193.—This is due to His Highness being in India during the year under report.

(*c*) *Central Administration*, Rs. 39,924.—This is due to the saving of Mr. Dutt's salary.

(*d*) *Local Boards*, Rs. 5,71,861.—In the previous year a large sum of Rs. 5½ lacs was specially granted to the Local Boards by His Highness on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee but there was no such expenditure this year and hence the decrease.

(*e*) *Army*, Rs. 62,931.—This decrease is partly due to less expenditure on account of the police subsidy and partly to other ordinary causes in the irregular forces.

(*f*) *Devasthan*, Rs. 22,352.—This is due to ordinary causes.

(*g*) *Interest*, Rs. 11,302.—This is due to non-payment to the Khangi and the Military Departments of their shares in the Kalol-Vijapur Railway earnings owing to late adjustments.

(*c*) *Financial Condition of the State.*

The subjoined table indicates at one view the financial condition of the State at the close of the year under report as compared with the previous year :—

Year.	Assets.			Liabilities.	Net assets exclusive of opium and opium juice in stock.
	Cash.	Debts due, &c.	Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1906-07 ...	41,53,579	2,85,02,758	3,26,56,337	33,67,903	2,92,88,434
1907-08 ...	39,76,685	2,96,70,583	3,36,47,268	37,63,635	2,98,83,633

IX.—EDUCATION.

(*a*)—Organization of the Department.

Mr. A. M. Masani, M. A., B.Sc., continued as Minister of Education and Vidyadhikari, during the year under report and gave great satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. He was assisted by three assistants so far as his work in the Vernacular Education Department was concerned. He also continued to exercise general supervision over the State Museum.

During the year under report there were 1,280 Schools under the immediate control of the Education Department against 1,267 in the preceding year. The increase is due to the opening of New Schools under the Compulsory Education Scheme.

English is taught in 27 of these institutions, *viz.*, 1 Arts College, 3 High Schools at Baroda, Pattan and Amreli, 14 Anglo-Vernacular Schools and 9 Grant-in-aid Schools, out of which 3 are High Schools and 6 Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

For Vernacular education, there were 1,202 regular schools, 11 special institutions, 3 fund schools (*i. e.*, schools maintained from funds supplied by religious institutions), 32 Grant-in-aid schools, 3 schools under inspection and 2 orphanages.

The total expenditure incurred for maintaining these institutions and for awarding scholarships to students studying in Europe, America and parts of India outside the State, giving encouragement to authors and such other purposes was Rs. 9,70,122, and the total receipts were only Rs. 92,855. The corresponding figures for the last year were Rs. 7,94,299 and Rs. 96,030. Thus there is an increase of Rs. 1,75,823 which is due to the opening of New Schools and the strengthening and revising the grades of the inspectorial agency

for meeting the newly created wants consequent on primary education having been made compulsory. The decrease in receipts is due to the fact that the profits of the Kala Bhavan workshops were comparatively small this year.

(*b*)—English Education.

Baroda College.—As mentioned in the previous reports, the College is affiliated to the University of Bombay in the faculties of Arts, Science and Law. It continued to maintain its reputation both for the high character of its tuition and for success at the annual examinations of the University of Bombay.

The College staff consisted of 8 Professors, besides the Principal. In addition to this staff there are one Lecturer in French, one Shastri, two Fellows, two Laboratory Assistants and one Librarian.

During the year under report Mr. A. B. Clarke, B.A., Principal, proceeded to Europe on furlough on Medical Certificate and Dr. M. J. Jackson, M. A., D. Sc., M. I. E. E., acted for him during his absence as Principal and Professor of Physics and English, while Mr. Dorabji M. Patel, B.A., Head Master, Baroda High School, worked as Professor of English.

There were 212 students on the roll at the end of the year against 235 in the preceding year. There was sufficient room for 110 students in the residential quarters attached to the College and one block providing accommodation for 48 boys was allotted to the Baroda High School. The construction of a comfortable bungalow for the resident professor has been completed, and very shortly arrangements will be made for its occupation by a Professor who will be responsible for general supervision over the boarders. This arrangement will tend to further improve the tone and spirit of these

students and their sense of corporate unity and a higher ideal of social life which it is the aim of Boarding institutions to foster and encourage. With the same end in view Government have lately ordered the construction of another bungalow for the Professor of Physics within the precincts of the College area.

The total expenditure on the College amounted to Rs. 64,719, whilst the amount received from fees was Rs. 11,356. The total annual cost of educating each pupil on the average was Rs. 208 against Rs. 210 in the previous year.

The results of the different examinations are shown in the following table :—

Examinations.	Number of Students sent up.	Number of Students passed.	REMARKS.
M. A.	2	1	1st class with Chancellor's & Telang's gold medals.
B. A....	28	15	2 in the 2nd class.
Intermediate Arts ...	34	17	2 in the 2nd class.
Previous	107	24	1 in the 1st class. 1 in the 2nd class.
Intermediate Science...	4	4	
B. Sc.	3	2	Both in the 2nd class.
1st LL.B.	16	10	
Total ...	194	73	

All these results except that of the Previous Examination may be pronounced to be satisfactory. The poor result of the Previous Examination is partly accounted for by the fact that all who wished to appear for it were allowed to present themselves.

A short description of the Tutorial Scheme introduced into the College has already been given in the last year's report. It serves the purpose of developing bonds of kindly relationships between professors and students and promoting the growth of feelings of attachment and confidence amongst all concerned. As a result of the measure the gulf between the teachers and the taught has been sensibly bridged over.

The amenities of the College have been increased by the introduction of a new billiard table. The game being a new one to most of the members of the College, the table has hitherto been used only by a select few but its use will probably be more general hereafter.

The idea of taking out a batch of College students on excursions in charge of a College Professor to visit places of historical, archæological and scientific interest in India was put into practice during the year under report. It was decided to take out students from the Junior B. A. Class, as it had no examination to face this year. Under the guidance of Professor Purohit, the students visited various places of interest in Northern India including Jeypore, Delhi, Lucknow, Calcutta and Darjeeling. The effect of such tours in broadening the outlook of students, and awakening new interests and tastes at an age receptive of new ideas and impressions, cannot fail to be beneficial. A sum of Rs. 750 was sanctioned by Government towards the expenses of the tour.

A scheme for a Science Institute in connection with the Baroda College was proposed by Dr. Jackson and is under the consideration of Government, and plans and estimates for putting Scientific education on a sound and practical basis by providing large and well equipped laboratories were in process of development. They have now been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 3,00,000. When the structure is finished, not only will ample accommodation have been supplied for

scientific wants, but the addition of rooms for the Library and Professors will furnish much-needed accommodation for the College and High School classes in the old palatial building which houses them at present.

High Schools.—Besides the three Government High Schools at Baroda, Pattan and Amreli, there are three schools of the same order supported by grants-in-aid at Baroda, Naosari and Gandevi. The following table shows the results of the Matriculation and School Final Examinations achieved by these schools :—

Name of High School.	Number of Students sent up.	Number of Students passed.
	Matriculation.	
Baroda High School	108	39
Amreli do.	13	11
Pattan do.	6	5
Naosari do.	21	4
Gandevi do.	9	3
Shri Sayaji do.	16	.....
	School Final.	
Baroda High School	17	7
Pattan do.	8	4
Naosari do.	10	4
Shri Sayaji do.	5	.....

The results of the Baroda and Naosari High Schools are not satisfactory, the reason being that the second language and vernaculars have been made compulsory

subjects for the University Examination since 1907. Amreli and Pattan High Schools have, however, done well. The Shri Sayaji High School, Baroda, had to face the University Examination for the first time.

The Baroda High School won the Lamington Shield and other prizes at the Athletic Sports Competition between all the High Schools of Gujarat held in Ahmedabad. The boys of the High School further won the Maharaja Cup for athletics. This is gratifying and indicates that physical education and outdoor games like cricket receive full attention.

His Highness the Maharaja visited the Naosari Zarthosti Madressa during the year under report. In commemoration of this visit, Mr. R. F. Dabu announced a gift to the Madressa of Rs. 1,000, from the interest of which a gold medal is to be given annually in His Highness' name to the student passing the Matriculation Examination therefrom with the highest number of marks.

The Tata Industrial School managed by the Committee that looks after the Madressa, was opened on the 17th of May 1908 by His Highness while at Naosari. Government contributed Rs. 12,500 to the building funds and Rs. 2,000 as an annual maintenance grant to the School. In commemoration of this visit Bai Ratanbai Edalji Bamji, who supplied the funds for the building which is to be called after her son Kaikhoshraw, contributed a sum of Rs. 1,000 to the funds of the School. On the day of the Barsa Ceremony of Prince Pratap Sinh, Mr. Yusufalli, Subhâ, Naosari, announced a donation of Rs. 1,000 towards establishing a scholarship to be awarded to a Mahomedan boy in the School, and Mr. R. F. Dabu gave Rs. 10,000 towards building students' quarters in connection with the Madressa on certain conditions

Anglo-Vernacular Schools.—There were 14 Government Anglo-Vernacular Schools as in the previous year in the different Talukas of the State.

To the existing number of Grant-in-aid Anglo-Vernacular Schools three more at Vyara, Gambhira and Nar were added, thus bringing up the total to 11 ; but as the schools at Vesma and Gambhira had to be closed on account of the paucity of students and want of funds, the total number of such institutions at the end of the year was 9.

Attendance in the English Teaching Schools.—The total number of students in the different schools referred to above in which English is taught, during the last three years, is shown in the following table :—

Institutions.	Number of Students.		
	1905-06.	1906-07.	1907-08.
3 High Schools	1,246	1,115	1,276
14 A.-V. Schools	1,589	1,660	1,815
9 Grant-in-aid Schools	621	985	1,480
Total ...	3,456	3,760	4,571

Adding to these the number of students at the Baroda College, we find that the total number of students in the English-teaching institutions was 4,783.

Scholarships.—Over and above, the regular scholarships given in the College, and High and A.-V. Schools, 42 monthly scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 635 are granted by His Highness from his private purse to students studying at different institutions. Seven of these scholarships are held by girls and the rest by boys. Besides these scholarships, Rs. 1,940 were paid to the Deccan Association at Poona for the purpose of diffusing education amongst the Maratha

community. The total amount spent from this source for scholarships during the year under report amounted to Rs. 10,781.

Students sent abroad.—At the end of the year there was one student in England learning plumbing and sanitary engineering, two in Japan, one learning electric engineering, and the other mining and metallurgy, one more in England studying architecture and two more Bengali graduates in the same country sent at the instance, and being under the general guidance, of Dr. Bose of Calcutta. Six students are also sent out to the different educational institutions in India for learning some useful technical arts. The total expenditure incurred for this purpose amounted to Rs. 16,412-4-1. Two teachers of the High School were sent for study to the Secondary Teachers' College in Bombay during the year and four teachers more will be sent, two to Bombay and two to Madras, the former for the diploma of Senior Teachers' Certificate and the latter for the Degree of L. T.

Expenditure on English Education.—The expenditure incurred on account of English education and the receipts of the several institutions noted above for the last three years are given below:—

Items.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure	1,57,015	1,53,516	1,70,816
Receipts	34,739	34,619	34,863

It will be noticed that while the receipts are stationary, the expenditure is on the increase.

(c)—Vernacular Education.

Particulars as regards the number of Vernacular Schools under the exclusive control of the Education Department and of the pupils attending them are given in the following table :—

Year.	Government Boys' Schools.		Government Girls' Schools.		Other Institutions.		Total.	
	Number of Schools.	Number of Boys.	Number of Schools.	Number of Girls.	Number of Institutions.	Number of Students.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.
1906-07 ...	843	73,191	343	22,436	55	4,141	1,241	99,768
1907-08 ...	871	75,845	331	24,306	51	4,029	1,253	1,04,180

The increase which is not so marked as that of the last year was due to the continuance of the policy of opening new schools under the Compulsory Education Scheme. There seems to be a decline in the number of Girls' Schools though the total number of girls attending the schools has not suffered. The decrease is due to the fact that some schools formerly opened to give immediate effect to the Compulsory Education policy, having been found superfluous, were amalgamated with other local schools. It may, however, be observed that as regards scholars the figures disclose a fair increase.

The expenditure on the 1,202 Government Vernacular Schools shewn in the above table (871 boys' schools and 331 girls' schools) was Rs. 6,02,995, giving the higher average of Rs. 500 a year for each school than that of the last year in which it was Rs. 408. This increase is due to the opening of new schools, manning them in a more efficient style and giving dead stock furniture, books and other educational appliances to almost all the schools.

Grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools.—There were 32 schools under private management in receipt of grants from Government. The total amount of such grants was Rs. 1,989-7-6. As remarked in the last year's report the number of these schools shows a steady fall from year to year. The State gave grants to 37 such schools last year whereas the number in the year before was 47. In a State where primary education is made absolutely free and compulsory, it is but natural that such institutions cannot flourish because the parents of children perceive at once the difference between their equipment which must be poor owing to their limited resources and that of Government Schools, which are more liberally treated. Before long these schools may entirely cease to exist.

The number of towns and villages having exclusively Government Schools was 412 against 416 in the last year. All towns and villages of over 1,000 inhabitants possessed the advantage of Government Schools and those below 1,000 were provided with village schools managed by the Local Boards. Immediately after the close of the official year (1907-08) the control of the inspecting agency for village schools was transferred from the District Boards to the Education Department. This transfer took effect from 1st October 1908 and affected 1575 schools teaching 60,290 children. Thus the total number of educational institutions in the State during the year under report was 2,828 with 1,64,470 pupils.

Out of the total population of 19,52,692 souls, the Education Department supplied schools to 10,43,991. The total number of children attending these schools was 1,04,180 against 99,768 in the previous year.

(*d*)—Female Education.

The Female Training College.—The year under report was the first year of work after the complete reorganisation and readjustment of studies with considerable improvement

in the value of scholarships and prospects of pay for the female scholars studying in the Female Training College to which reference was made in the last year's report. The changes made have had fair results and it is hoped that the College will turn out more and better qualified teachers henceforth since another year's course of study has been added. In the fifth year the elementary study of some important sciences has been introduced and the knowledge of Botany will enable the scholars to handle properly nature lessons and study in regard to plant life in primary schools. Miss M. Bhore, Lady Superintendent, was in the latter part of the year on leave on Medical Certificate and Miss M. Wiltshier, Trained Assistant Lady Superintendent, who has shown herself endowed with great tact and intelligence was in charge of the institution. The amount of monthly scholarships distributed to the female scholars was raised to Rs. 375 from Rs. 280, the object being partly to draw a larger number and a better class of students to the College, and partly to render more attractive the scholarships given to the best and most hardworking scholars. The number of female scholars attending this College was 39 against 28 last year. The total expenditure was Rs. 10,568 against Rs. 7,925 of the last year. The average expense per scholar was Rs. 270 per year against Rs. 283 The question of a Boarding-House for the scholars has not yet been finally settled, great difficulty being experienced in securing a spacious and well ventilated building with good environments.

Embroidery, drawing, and practical cookery are taught in the Girls' Schools at Baroda, Pattan, Naosari, Petlad and Visnagar. Lessons in music are also given in the first three schools. They are also given in the Female Training College with the view that the future school mistresses thus initiated into a knowledge of this interesting subject can impart the same or awaken for it a taste amongst the young girls entrusted to them. The utility of the culinary

classes has been maintained. Plain needle work is taught in all the schools and Kindergarten materials are supplied to them. Sanskrit is also taught in the Gujarati and Marathi Girls' Schools attached to the Female Training College. Miss D'Arcy continued to teach lace-making in the class opened for the purpose in the College, during the year under report. Good work in lace-making is also done by the Dhanka girls at Songadh.

Girls' High School.—An important event to be noted in connection with female education is the conversion of the Girls' A. V. School into a regular High School affiliated to the University of Bombay for sending up students for the Matriculation Examination. There were in all 119 girls in this school, 101 learning the elements of English in the last three classes of the Practising School attached to the Institution and the rest in the school proper. The first five standards were fully formed and there was one girl in the Matriculation Class who was being prepared for that examination this year. A fair attempt at English education has thus been made and if parents would but appreciate its advantages, there is a good future for the Institution. English has been introduced in the Girls' Vernacular Schools at Petlad, Visnagar and Pattan, the object being that if a taste is created in girls for the subject they may join the Baroda Girls' High School and the District Schools may serve the purpose of feeder schools. The total number of girls attending these English classes was 69. They are reported to have done fairly well. The girls themselves evince interest in this new study, but it will take some time before their parents and guardians get over their prejudices against it. English is taught in the higher standards where the number of pupils is generally limited, a large proportion of them being withdrawn from school early owing to the prevalence of the custom of early marriage.

A special provision for the education of girls where their number is very small may be noted here. Where no separate schools for girls can be provided, they are allowed to attend those intended for boys up to a certain age. When the number of girls attending such a mixed school reaches 30, a separate girls' school is opened. During the year under report the total number of girls attending boys' schools was 6,492 against 5,669. Adding this figure to the total number of girls attending the regular girls' schools, we find that in all Government schools taken together, as many as 31,057 girls of different ages receive education against 28,643 in the preceding year and against 12,170 in the year before. To this figure the number of girls learning the rudiments in the village schools should be added. It was 12,727. Thus in all 43,784 girls were being educated during the year under report. While there has thus been a decided advance in the number of girls sent to school, the returns do not disclose any desire on the part of their parents to continue them at schools for a longer period. The maximum age of the girls studying in the regular schools is 13 in the case of Hindus and 15 in the case of Parsis. There are some Urdu girls' schools which are managed on strictly *purdah* lines and are staffed by women teachers.

Zenana Classes.—These classes which are intended for such women as cannot attend the regular girls' schools owing to the pressure of domestic duties and comparatively advanced age, continued to give instruction in the elements of reading, writing, keeping ordinary accounts, needlework and embroidery. They are held every afternoon for 3 hours when these women can find leisure to attend them. There were four Zenana classes this year as in the preceding one. The total number of women on the rolls at the end of the year was 140, against 133 in the previous year and against 104 in the year before. This shows that the number is slowly increasing every year and that the utility of these institutions is being

recognised. Out of this total number 77 appeared for the annual examination and 63 passed. In Bajwada—one of the thickly populated parts of the Baroda City—an afternoon lace-class for grown-up women was opened as a temporary measure and it was fairly attended. It is very likely that it may in time grow into a women's work-class, where they can be trained in industries which they may practise at their homes. Earnest and vigorous efforts will be made to secure this consummation.

(*e*)—Compulsory Education.

Primary Education was made compulsory in the Taluka of Amreli in the early nineties of the last century as an experiment. Fifteen years' experience proved that it was a really beneficial measure and therefore the decision to introduce it throughout the State was taken in 1905-06. The age limit for the compulsory attendance of boys has been fixed from 7 to 12 and that for girls from 7 to 10. Exemption from compulsory attendance is granted to those (1) whose presence is indispensable at home owing to the advanced age or infirmities of their parents, (2) or who are themselves physically disabled from learning, (3) or who have to go for that purpose more than one mile, (4) or who are the bread winners of the family, (5) or who have to leave the State limits for good, (6) or who finish the compulsory standard of education, (7) or attain the compulsory age limit. The standard of compulsory study is the Third. Permission to remain absent is granted to those children (1) who are ill, (2) or whose presence is needed at home, (3) or who have to go on leave. The measure adopted has, as is but natural, not escaped criticism even from persons who can speak with authority, and it is necessary to point out how the State has taken care to meet all possible difficulties which must necessarily attend the working of such a measure. It may be said at the outset that the measure

inaugurated by the State is one that is a permanent and not a tentative or a temporary one. And it is not intended to rest content with only the three standards that have now been prescribed. It is intended besides to give gradually a practical turn to the education imparted. Fully realizing the pecuniary responsibility entailed by the measure, adequate funds have been, and are being provided, and the necessity for the same will receive prior attention to all other except the most important claims on the State Finances. Much is made of such difficulties as must spring from the general condition and especially the poverty of the people, but they are not insurmountable and are being met in a suitable manner, and it is trusted that greater experience on the part of the authorities and greater familiarity with the novel system on that of people will eventually overcome them all. Books and slates are freely supplied to the children of the very poor classes. School hours are so arranged as to suit the varying requirements of agricultural work according to the seasons. An annual sum of over a lac of rupees has been sanctioned for the construction of new buildings. The Training College for Teachers has been re-organised, and provided with specially trained teachers who have received their degrees in Pedagogy in English and American Universities and its scope more than doubled, and consequently complaint about the paucity of trained teachers will before long be considerably obviated and eventually disappear. Parents and guardians of the children concerned are liable to a fine in case they fail to send such children to school and the amount is so adjusted as to prevent its pressing hard upon them. Ample provision has been made for protecting people against likely exactions and harsh treatment from petty subordinates. The depressed classes have been specially provided for as will be seen elsewhere. By the end of the year under report, Primary Education was made compulsory in almost every village of the State.

The following table shows the number of compulsory schools with pupils both within and outside the compulsory age limit :—

Language of Schools.	Baroda City.				State Schools excluding Baroda City Schools.			
	Number of schools.	Pupils within the compulsory age limit.	Pupils outside the compulsory age limit.	Total.	Number of schools.	Pupils within the compulsory age limit.	Pupils outside the compulsory age limit.	Total.
Gujrati Boys' Schools	5	350	90	440	107	6,569	1,158	7,727
„ Girls' „	6	484	179	663	220	10,805	1,869	12,674
Marathi Boys' „	2	111	12	123	.....	.....	.....	.....
„ Girls' „	3	181	74	255	.....	.....	.....	.....
Urdu Boys' „	3	269	49	318	24	1,244	267	1,511
„ Girls' „	4	291	112	403	13	792	125	917
Antyaj Boys' „	3	199	22	221	282	7,692	754	8,446
„ Girls' „	... ...	.....	.....	.....	4	195	44	239
Total ...	26	1,885	538	2,423	650	27,297	4,217	31,514

It will be seen from the above that at the close of the year under report, there were 676 Government compulsory schools with 33,937 pupils in them. Of these, the schools for boys numbered 426 and those for girls 250, the total number of boys and girls in them being respectively 18,786 and 15,151. These figures do not, however, include numerous children of the compulsory age limit, both in the regular schools and village schools where also provision for the study of the first three compulsory standards is made. Children learn in whatever schools they find convenient, but the purely compulsory schools opened to meet the additional demand do not teach more than 3 standards.

The following figures will show an approximate increase in the number of children belonging to the different castes over and above the great increase noted in the report for the last year :—

Maratha Children	...	...	700
Vagher do.	...	...	100
Kunbi do.	...	...	600
Wandering Classes	...	...	1,500
The Antyaj Class	...	...	1,600
Total		...	4,500

The special supervisor appointed to look after the compulsory schools in the City of Baroda has been continued and is doing fair work. As many as 35 clerks have been given to the Revenue Vahivatdars to cope with the work that fines, &c., have occasioned. Immediately after the close of the official year the inspectorial staff was considerably strengthened and there is every ground to expect full results since difficulties as they arise are promptly and adequately met.

The total amount expended on the establishment of these compulsory schools was, during the year under report, Rs. 1,79,720 against Rs. 95,198 in the last year.

(*f*)—Education of the Lower Classes.

If there is any community which has furnished a notably large number of children to schools owing to the Compulsory Education Measure, it is the community popularly known as the lower depressed classes. Their census population is 1,63,176. During the year under report, there were 300 Antyaj Boys' Schools with 10,469 pupils and 5 Antyaj Girls' Schools with 329 pupils in them making a total of 305 schools with 10,798 children against 247 schools with 9,269 children in the last year. School requisites were, as usual, supplied free by Government to all the pupils and scholarships of the aggregate amount of Rs. 119 were distributed per month. These Antyaj Schools are mixed schools of boys and girls. Two important events in connection with the education of these classes evidencing the constant solicitude of His Highness for their elevation may be noted. They are (1) the founding of a boarding house in Baroda where accommodation for 25 boys and 25 girls is available and (2) the appointment of a separate Deputy Inspector for the Antyaj Schools. Mr. Atmaram Radhakrishna, a Maheshri from the Punjab and a member of the Arya Samaj, holding enlightened views on the subject of caste divisions and therefore free from those prejudices which unfortunately still hold sway even over educated Hindus, discharges at present the double function of Superintendent of the Antyaj Boarding House and Deputy Educational Inspector of the Antyaj Schools. It is justifiable to hope, under these circumstances, that the *status* of these classes will be raised, and to assist in that consummation it is decided that their children, if qualified, can be taken up in Government service.

(*g*)—Education of Forest Tribes.

The four Boarding Schools for the boys and girls of the Dhanka and other forest tribes have continued to work satisfactorily. All the schools were full, the number accommodated

being 100 in each boys' school and 50 in the girls' school. These schools teach up to standard VII, and the education imparted therein bears good fruit in after-life. Boys, after they finish their course, go out with ideas opened up and determined to act in accordance therewith. They generally attack drinking and such other vices as prevail amongst semi-civilized people and a fair measure of success attends these efforts to improve the community. Orphans from the Naosari Division are also entertained in these boarding schools. Such Dhanka boys, as completed their studies in the Boarding schools, have been engaged as teachers in the village schools of the Rani-Mahals where it would have been difficult to send teachers from other places. There are model farms attached to the boarding schools at Songhad and Vyara, and every facility is given to these young persons to learn their ancestral profession of agriculture according to both eastern and western methods. Carpentry forms an additional subject so that they may be enabled to repair their implements of husbandry themselves and not be dependent on carpenters every time their services may be required. The girls in the Songhad Boarding school have to attend the lace-making class. Sericulture is also introduced, and boys and girls attend the lessons given in that subject. During the year under report 78 boys from Songhad and 97 from Vyara appeared for the examination in Carpentry of whom 53 and 89 passed respectively.

Besides these, other pupils from the local Gujrati and Marathi schools are allowed to join these classes to learn carpentry as a part of manual training.

In the Model Farms attached to the Songhad and Vyara schools 50 bighas were under cultivation in the former and 30 in the latter. Various kinds of crops were experimented upon and the Songhad farm gave a net profit of Rs. 265-14-1. Grown up girls of the Songhad boarding

school were also sent at stated times to work on the farm. The total expenditure on these boarding schools amounted to Rs. 20,057 against Rs. 19,001 in the preceding year. The expenses go on increasing, though slowly, from year to year. The necessity of providing qualified teachers and the introduction of new subjects of study easily account for the increase which, it can be safely asserted, is more than repaid by the good that is done by these unique institutions.

(*h*)—The Patel Boarding School at Amreli.

With the object of training up the sons of Patels and Mukhies—the future headmen of villages for revenue work, His Highness was pleased to sanction the opening of a boarding school at Amreli for 50 boys. Elementary instruction in civil and criminal work which the boys will be called upon to perform in the latter part of their life is given side by side with agricultural instruction. Outsiders are entitled to attend the school provided their parents bear the expenses. To establish similar schools in each of the other 3 Divisions is under contemplation. This school was started in February 1907. During the year under report there were 42 boys of whom 41 were sons of Patels and 1 an outsider. Till lately the course of study was distributed over three years but it was deemed expedient to curtail it to two years and consequently the course was revised and so adjusted as to keep all the useful subjects which were necessary for the special training for which the school is designed. The principle subjects which they have now to study are :—(1) Agriculture both in theory and practice, (2) knowledge of Revenue, Civil and Criminal work, (3) knowledge of all subjects comprised in the vernacular standard VI, and (4) Surveying.

The staff consists of a Head Master who is an agriculture diplomat of the University of Bombay, one revenue teacher and one trained teacher. Only a nominal

fee of one rupee is charged per month. The sons of Patels are housed and fed *gratis*; others have to pay Rs. 5 per month. The boys were sent to see the Exhibition at Bhavnagar in April last.

(*i*)—The Orphanages.

The State maintains two regular orphanages which had to be started to provide for the waifs of the famines. During the year under report they were continued at Amreli. Orphans found in the Naosari Division are, as stated already, sent to the Boarding houses of Songhad. At Amreli there are distinct orphanages for boys and girls. During the year under report the total number of inmates therein was 106 (62 boys and 44 girls) which together with the 11 orphans (10 boys and 1 girl) in Songhad makes up a full total of 117. During the year under report 9 girls were given away in marriage to eligible husbands of the same community at an expense of Rs. 230.

These orphans were trained in different standards and in different schools. Grown up orphans are allowed to learn some useful occupation so that when discharged under the rules, they can earn a livelihood without difficulty. The principal occupations that are taught are tailoring, masonry, carpentry, weaving, shoe-making, sewing and drawing. The total expenditure was Rs. 6,740 against Rs. 7,368 in the preceding year, the decrease being due to a decrease in the number of orphans.

(*j*)—Music Schools.

The State has recognised music as a part of the education it has set to itself to impart. The four music schools at Baroda, Naosari, Pattan and Amreli continued during the year under report and all of them were examined by Mr. Allaudin M. Pathan, M. D. There were 504 boys

learning music of whom 387 presented themselves for examination and 365, *i.e.*, 94·3 passed. Music classes are also provided in the Female Training College for all scholars, and in certain girls' schools at Baroda, Naosari and Pattan. Wherever there are music schools, recitations in vernacular schools continued to be taught according to the notation system in vogue in the schools. In the Diploma and Certificate Examinations held at Baroda in the different branches of music 22 students passed. The total expenditure of these schools was Rs. 7,143 against Rs. 5,972 in the preceding year, the increase being the natural consequence of the policy to give sufficient encouragement to this desirable accomplishment.

(*k*)—Sanskrit and Urdu Schools.

The total number of Sanskrit schools was 10. Of these 4 were Government schools, and five grant-in-aid schools, and one school under inspection at Beyt. During the year under report there were 461 pupils on the rolls against 456 in the preceding year, of whom 303 were examined and 234 passed. No fees are charged in these schools.

The expenditure falling on Government on account of these schools was Rs. 1,270 against Rs. 1,035 in the preceding year. Over and above these schools for Sanskrit learning Dakshinas are distributed in the month of Shravana after regular examinations on the University model. 126 candidates appeared for these examinations in various subjects of whom 112 passed. The total amount of Dakshina given to the successful candidates amounted to Rs. 826. Such Dakshina as is awarded, the successful candidates are entitled to claim for the whole of their lives. The total amount of Dakshinas distributed during the year to those who have passed in previous years and those who passed during the year amounted to Rs. 19,050 against Rs. 19,182 in the preceding year.

Urdu Schools.—According to the census of 1901, the male Mahomedan population is 84,349 and females number 80,675. There were in all 60 Urdu boys' schools and 21 Urdu girls' schools, having 6,679 boys and 2,259 girls in them respectively. Thus the total number of Mahomedan children learning in these schools was 8,938. Over and above these as many as 3,117 children of this community attended one or another Gujrati school. The percentage of the Mahomedan children is 7·3. In some places Mahomedans tenaciously cling to the traditional study of Arabic, comprising the reading of Koran and conform in a general way to the Government standards. In some of the Urdu girls' schools, Government has so far fallen in with the wishes of the Mahomedan community as to engage the services of a Mulla as one of the school staff.

It seems that a large class of parents is unwilling to send their daughters to schools not staffed by women and this prejudice against any relaxation of the purdah system hinders the efforts of the Department in introducing higher education in the Urdu girls' schools.

(*l*)—Miscellaneous Institutions.

Manual Training.—There are altogether six classes, 3 in the Kadi division, 1 each at Visnagar, Kadi, and Pattan, and one class in each of the Naosari, Baroda and Amreli divisions attached to the Billimora, Sojitra, and Amreli schools. Drawing and carpentry are taught in these classes. They have become very popular and it is under contemplation to increase their number. The total number of students undergoing this training was 1,330 of whom 812 presented themselves for examination and 686 passed. The subject has been of late made compulsory from standard IV to standard VI. Clay modelling is to be taught in such classes from standard III in case circumstances permit. The curriculum has been fixed and time tables arranged in consultation with the Principal, Kalabhavan.

Night Schools.—During the year under report the same five night schools, 4 in the Baroda division and 1 in the Kadi division continued. The hours of work in these schools are from 8 to 10 in the evening. These classes meet in the main school building. One is a Marathi class and the others teach Gujrati. The object of maintaining these institutions is to provide facilities to grown up men for elementary education. The highest standard taught is the IV, and no fees are charged.

Agricultural School.—This school is located in the City of Baroda. The total number of boys at the end of July 1908 was only 9. At the time of the annual examination of the school, there were 12 boys in the senior and 5 in the junior class. The unsatisfactory condition of the school was noticed promptly. The control and management of this school was with the Director of Agriculture during the year. Schemes for improving the general condition of the school were devised and submitted to higher authorities. All those who appeared for the annual examination passed. A Committee was appointed to suggest steps to be taken for attracting a larger number of students to this school, for improving the teaching staff, and for making the study of practical agriculture more thorough and efficient. Government have not accepted fully the recommendations made by the Committee and directed that proposals for the reorganisation of the Agriculture class might be made without causing any increase in the present expenditure.

Military Schools.—There were two such schools in the Amreli Division, one at Dhari for the Dhari Battalion and the other at Dwarka for the Okha Battalion. In all 108 pupils, out of 222 on the rolls, presented themselves for the examination held by the Marathi Deputy Educational Inspector, and 107 passed. These results are satisfactory.

Jail School.—This school which is attached to the Baroda Central Jail, for the benefit of convicts, had 24 pupils who were examined by the Baroda Deputy Educational Inspector. The result of the Borstal System will be dealt with in the Chapter on the Jails.

Associations.—The Teachers' Association described in the previous reports, continued to work during the year under report and held 54 meetings. The Female Teachers' Association was active, holding meetings and discussing subjects connected with teaching and generally with self-improvement, and the amelioration of the social condition of their sex. These meetings are attended by the scholars of the Female Training College also, who are thus early prepared for the art of discussion and original thinking.

Physical Education.—While looking after the literary education of the children of the State, the Department does not neglect the training of the body. From year's end to year's end it has been seriously attempting to put this branch of education on a sound footing by increasing the number of gymnasium teachers, by furnishing additional apparatus to old classes, and by laying out gymnasium grounds. Native games invariably arouse much interest in the lower classes. There are already 34 gymnasium teachers and 9 more will shortly be added.

Moral Education.—Though the maxim that 'example is better than precept' is more effective in the field of moral education, and no amount of lecturing to young impressionable minds on the moral virtues would alone have the desired effect, still a good purpose is served when teachers bring to the notice of childern the moral that is deducible from the lessons in the reading series. This seems to be done in the various schools. We have had as yet no special text book on the subject. The subject is under consideration.

Kindergarten Teaching.—The Kindergarten system of teaching has been introduced into every school. The power of observation, careful study of the mind of the child, tact and similar qualities are essential to successful teaching according to this system. These qualities are found in a greater or less degree in some of the more enthusiastic of the class of trained teachers who turn to full account the teaching they have received in this behalf. A copy of the translation of the Paradise of Childhood has been supplied to each school. In many of the large schools, all the gifts of Frœbel are given and a good beginning has been made. The department contemplates giving special teachers for this subject in some of the schools as an experiment.

Libraries.—Government, Public and Private.—Government assigned Rs. 30,000 for the diffusion of knowledge by means of circulating libraries. This subject has been dealt with at some length in the last report. The year under report has witnessed a remarkable development of the scheme. There were in all 26 circulating libraries, 74 Mitra Mandal libraries which receive substantial help from the assignment just referred to, and 60 pure reading rooms, making a total of 160. Eleven new libraries are about to be opened as they have sent the requisite amount to be supplied by them. The total amount of contribution from people for these libraries, according to the rules, was Rs. 2,525. The State spent Rs. 6,000 and about Rs. 3,000 were secured as discount on the purchase of books, the result being that an adequate number of the right kind of books, worth about Rs. 11,525, was bought for these institutions. Over and above these books, a set of books of the value of Rs. 125 is given to each of these libraries from translations published by the State.

These circulating libraries came into existence only by State help; but before they were started, liberally disposed people of advanced views had established public libraries in their own towns. It seems from the information

collected by the Department that there are 40 such libraries in the State, some of which are quite free and others levy small fees. This number does not include the extensive and costly library in the State, *viz.*, the Sayaji Library in the City of Baroda, established by Shrimant Sampatrao Gaikwad. Of these libraries, the Pandit Gatulalji Library founded in memory of the late Pandit Gatulalji at Petlad through the exertions and perseverance of Mr. Hiralal V. Shroff, B.A., and containing about 3,000 volumes of good and substantial literature, and the Maherji Rana Library of Naosari having 7,000 books, deserve special mention. Next to them, come the Fattehsinh Library of Pattan, the Public Library of Petlad, the Petit Library at Billimora, the Sayaji Vaibhava Library at Naosari and the two libraries of Amreli and Dwarka, all of which contain volumes numbering between 2,000 and 3,000. Some of these libraries are located in good spacious buildings, but others have to make shift with hired houses.

The Boarding Houses.—The State has fully recognised the inestimable good resulting from Boarding houses, and tries to multiply such institutions according to circumstances and requirements. Stay in residential quarters under the vigilant supervision of well selected superintendents goes a great way in the building up of character—the principal aim of education. There were 17 such Boarding houses during the year under report. Three such houses for the forest tribes, one for the Antyaj community and the Patel Boarding school, have been referred to above. The Boarding house at Petlad deserves to be specially noted here since the disinterested spirit of work of the Head Master, Mr. Amin, and his unbounded but well directed zeal and care has yielded commendable results. A Boarding house for the scholars of the Female Training College has also been sanctioned. The Boarding houses for College students, and those for the scholars of the Kalabhavan and the Male Training College are important institutions. Over and above these, there are other Boarding houses attached to the English and Sanskrit schools.

(*m*)—Technical Education.

The Kalabhavan.—The Institution continued under the experienced and skilful management and control of Mr. Raojibhai M. Patel, L.C.E., A.M.I.M.E. The strength of the tutorial staff remained the same. Mr. G. G. Tolat, B.A., Head Master, Male Training School, having died suddenly, Mr. Nandnath K. Dixit, B.A., M.C.P. (a diploma-holder of the London University) was appointed in his place.

During the year under report there were nine schools in this institution as in the preceding year.

The following table shows the number of pupils in the different schools as compared with those in the previous year :—

Name of the School.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Art	103	123
Architecture	86	94
Mechanical Technology	125	126
Chemical Technology	60	74
Weaving	42	61
Watch-making	9	12
Pedagogy	73	107
Commercial Training	14	7
School for Artisans	49	57
Total ...	561	661

The large increase in the number of pupils is an unmistakable indication of the popularity of the Institution and of popular appreciation of the importance of Technical Education. Out of these 661 students, 483 (203 of the Baroda

City and 280 of the Mofussil) belonged to the Baroda State itself, and 178 were outsiders, of whom 42 belonged to other Native States in Gujarat and Kathiawad, 130 to the Bombay Presidency, 14 to the Central Provinces and 2 to the Punjab. The instruction in this Institution is so much prized by people that in some of the most popular branches admissions have to be regulated owing to want of sufficient accommodation by a competitive examination. As many as 169 presented themselves at the Entrance Examination, but only 43 could be taken up in the Mechanical Engineering Class. Out of 333 students who presented themselves for the different examinations, 144 were successful, 24 out of 31 passed in Art, 19 out of 78 in Architecture, 46 out of 124 in Mechanical Technology, 22 out of 61 in Chemical Technology, 29 out of 32 in Weaving, and 4 out of 7 in Watch-making. Besides this number, 109 presented themselves in the Examination for Pedagogy and 87 were declared successful.

Some of the results are very unsatisfactory, and it was necessary for the Department to have ascertained and reported where the fault lay. It should now take up the enquiry and submit a full report.

At the examination in Drawing held by the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, in August 1907, 26 students of the School of Art appeared for the 1st Grade Drawing Certificate, 32 for the 2nd Grade, 26 for the 3rd Grade, 1 for the Drawing Teacher's Certificate and 3 for the Draftsman's Certificate. The total number of those who succeeded in obtaining these Certificates was 65, out of whom 19 got the 1st Grade Certificate, 22 the 2nd Grade, 23 the 3rd Grade and 1 the Drawing Teacher's Certificate. None secured the Draftsman's Certificate. These results are satisfactory and reflect credit on those who teach these subjects. As the School of Mechanical Technology has been recognised under the Bombay Boiler Inspection Act for the Mechanical Engineer's Examinations by

the Government of Bombay, it has always attracted a large number of students. It appears from information supplied by the Collector of Bombay that at the examinations held under the Bombay Boiler Inspection Act during the year under report 76 of our students presented themselves for the Engineer's Certificate, and 40 out of them, *i.e.*, more than 50 per cent. were successful.

These results compare very favourably with those of the preceding year, when out of 67 only 21 were able to secure the certificate. The Elementary Commercial class has met with some success at the last senior Commercial Examination of the Chamber of Commerce held in May 1908 ; 2 students appeared in Book-keeping, Shorthand and Typewriting. The results of both these examinations were not out at the close of the year.

Besides the usual Kalabhavan scholarships awarded out of the grant fixed for the purpose and those in the Dyeing School awarded by the Bombay Branch, of the firm of Messrs. Leopold Cassella & Co. of Germany, 7 Apprentice Scholarships of Rs. 10 each per mensem and tenable at the Kalabhavan were awarded by the Director of Public Instruction, Central Provinces, to the students from Nagpur and other places in that part of the country. Among other scholarships may be mentioned those awarded by the Than Lakhtar and Limbdi and Radhanpur States. There are two scholarships and two medals instituted in the names of high officers by their friends and admirers after their retirement. These are respectively the Dhamnaskar scholarships and Dalal medals.

During the year under report several articles were sent to the Bhavnagar Exhibition and a gold medal was received.

Evening School for Artisans.—This school was opened in November 1906 with a view to provide suitable instruction for artisans and craftsmen, such as carpenters, joiners, wood-turners, smiths, potters and others who are engaged during day-time in their own avocations and do not get time to attend

the day schools. The course of instruction as at present provided comprises the three R's and drawing. Drawing has proved a great attraction to almost all the classes from which the school is recruited. There being a sufficient number of carpenters, arrangement for teaching the theory of carpentry has been made from April 1908. Other crafts will be introduced when there is a fair demand for them. Out of 57 artisans attending the school, 15 were carpenters, 8 wood-turners, 7 smiths, 11 bricklayers, 1 barber, 4 kharwas (bamboo-splitters), 7 potters and 4 others. The class is doing good work and promises to be popular.

Industrial Schools.—There were 3 industrial schools, *viz.*, at Padra, Naosari and Amreli. The total number of scholars in each of the three schools was 19, 28, 57 in order, making a total of 104 against 126 in the year preceding. Steps are being taken to carefully inquire into the cause of this decline and information is being gathered with a view to find out the most suitable place for starting one industrial school in Kadi division, so that no division may be left without a school of this kind. In the Padra and Naosari schools drawing and dyeing and in the Amreli school carpentry and drawing are taught.

The Workshops.—The workshops continued to do very useful work for the various Departments of the State and for the Palace and the Museum, under the tactful management and supervision of Mr. C. N. Vevai, L. M. E. The value of the work actually done in the workshop during the year under report was Rs. 63,002-3-2. The net profits of the workshops were only Rs. 6,441.

Important Changes and Measures.—Fees are introduced in the Schools of Civil Engineering and Chemical Technology. As a tentative measure the system of charging Rs. 10 per term per student in the Mechanical School was introduced. This did not in the least interfere with the popularity of the school and

thus the experiment having proved a success, the measure is confirmed. The time has come when those that receive the benefits of the school should make a small contribution towards its expenses. So that the extra receipts may be utilised for improving its efficiency.

With a view to secure efficiency in work and attract really good teachers and professors a general revision of grades and scales of pay was made. Owing to the introduction of compulsory education, the necessity of having numerous qualified teachers became accentuated. Consequently the Training College was extended considerably and it entertains now 200 students, most of whom are teachers.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the Kalabhavan and the industrial schools was Rs. 70,954 against Rs. 55,261 in the preceding year. The annual average cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 80 against Rs. 50 in the last year. This increase is partly due to the extra expenditure which had to be incurred for providing apparatus and appliances to the laboratories, power looms to the schools of weaving and wheel-cutting machine to the school of watch-making and partly to the fact that the workshops' profit during the year under report was less than in the preceding year.

(*n*)—The Museum.

During the year under report Mr. M. K. Kanga, M. A., B. SC., L. M. & S., continued to work as Director of the Museum under the general supervision of Mr. A. M. Masani.

The Museum collection is practically located in two buildings now ; one is the main original building wherein are to be found all the sections of Art and Science and the other is the Pavillion in the Public Park now utilised as picture and sculpture gallery. The ground floor of the gallery is stocked with statues and busts in marble, bronze and plaster, whereas the first floor is utilised for the exhibition of pictures. Besides

the pictures and paintings presented by His Highness, those already in the Museum were removed to this gallery. The Museum was visited by 2,74,856 persons during the year under report, giving a daily average of 753. The corresponding figures in the last year were 2,29,203 and 627. The high average testifies to the popularity of the Institution.

As all the available space in the Museum buildings is taken up for the exhibition of specimens, His Highness has sanctioned an extension designed by that veteran architect, the capable and eminent Mr. R. F. Chisholm which will, while affording space on a liberal scale for pictures and statues which is urgently needed, provide some accommodation even for the general museum collections.

The educative influence of the Museum has been well maintained throughout the year. College students continued to take advantage of the collections in Natural Sciences, Geology, Minerology, Zoology and Botany ; a student or two reading for the M. A. Examination was often to be found in the Natural Science galleries. Specimens for practical teaching were often lent to the Female Training College, while the Kalabhavan and the Male Training College frequently sent their students to study mechanical and other apparatus and instruments. Boys from the city schools paid weekly visits to the Museum accompanied by the teachers.

Instructions were given in the last year's report to expedite the work of labelling specimens, and good progress has been made therewith. The greater portion of the exhibits in the Art section, and a part of those in the section for Zoology have been duly labelled. In the Science section the labelling of the invertebrate and the mammalia has been commenced.

Purchases and Presents.—A collection of over 100 pieces of different kinds of marbles found on the continent, and an assortment of arms, coins, and two old Persian silk carpets

were presented by the Khangi Department. Shrimant Sampatrao Gaikwad presented a pair of tusks appertaining to an elephant shot by him. Some very costly and beautiful presents came from His Highness. Dr. Gimi presented a piece of cloth made from bark by the people of East Africa. Models of machinery for making candles, wicks and buttons were obtained from Japan.

In connection with this Central Baroda Museum His Highness has invited recommendations for district branch Museums at three important towns in the three remaining divisions of the State. With the spread of primary education and the extension of secondary, collegiate, scientific and technical education district Museums are a *desideratum* and form the complement to these factors of a complete and progressive educational system.

The Library attached to the Museum for reference and classification contains about 3,300 books of the value of Rs. 16,600. Every facility is afforded to college students to obtain a loan of these books.

The expenditure incurred during the year under report was Rs. 5,304 for establishment, Rs. 16,678 for the purchase of exhibits, Rs. 1,496 on account of contingent charges and Rs. 347 as bhatta and railway allowance, and reached a total of Rs. 23,825 against Rs. 22,136 in the preceding year.

(*o*)—Education of the Maharaja's Children.

Rajkumari Indira Raja worked for 208 days out of 366, during the year under report, having lost 36 days on account of illness. The progress report of her study exhibits good work done by her, and her teachers testify to great and intelligent application and assiduity on her part. She was examined in all her work by a Board of Examiners, and is being trained for the Matriculation Examination of the University of Bombay. Miss Maclean read English poets with her, and Dr. Jackson lectured her in Chemistry.

Rajkumar Shivajirao continued his study at the Deccan College, Poona, and having passed the Previous Examination entered upon the course prescribed for the Intermediate Examination. His study was occasionally interrupted by short illness. But on the whole his progress was satisfactory; while in sports he showed his usual interest.

Rajkumar Jaisingrao attended the Horace Mann School, where Dr. Tower was engaged to teach him Mathematics. Having passed the Entrance Examination of the Harward University, U. S. A., he has joined that University as a fresh man. His work has been pronounced satisfactory.

Rajkumar Dhairyashilrao was under Mr. Williams at Eastbourne during the year. It is reported of him that he realises his own deficiencies and exhibits a determination to make them up. He read both English and Marathi Books. He kept good health, and favourable accounts of his manners and taste for outdoor and indoor games have been received.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(*a*)—Constitution of the Department.

During the year under report Mr. Chunilal Tarachand Dalal, L.C.E., continued to work in the capacity of Chief Engineer and Consulting Engineer for Irrigation. The following changes and additions occurred in the superior staff of the Department.

Mr. G. H. Krumbeigel having secured a post at Mysore resigned his office of Garden Superintendent in December 1907, and Mr. B. F. Cavanagh was appointed in his place. He joined his appointment in March 1908. H. H. the Maharaja was pleased to engage the services of Messrs. A. H. Coyle and W. Milner, the former as an Architect on Rs. 1,000 per mensem and the latter as an Assistant Architect on a salary of Rs. 600 per mensem to prepare designs and to look into the architectural details of the larger works. These two officers joined the service on the 18th April 1908 and their appointment supplies a *desideratum* long felt. Excepting once, no special officer for architecture was entertained in the service, and though no inconsiderable amount of architectural work has been and is being done, the Government were dependent on the services of outside specialists. It was therefore decided to form and develop a special superior staff for architecture. In addition to the two appointments an L. C. E., engaged by the Department, who had studied architecture in his College, has been deputed to England to receive the training requisite for an architect. It may still be necessary to obtain outside aid where very superior work is involved, but the present arrangements make adequate and systematic provision for ordinary requirements.

(*b*)—Buildings and Special Works.

The following important works were completed or were in progress during the year under report :—

Baroda District.—Works completed.—(1) Police Thanas and Lines at Koral, Choranda, Valan and Makarpura ; (2) Police line at Bhadran ; (3) Electric light on Chamrajendra-Mandvi Road and L. V. Palace Kitchen ; (4) A Police Thana and Sepoys' Line at Ajwa ; (5) Resident Professor's bungalow with out-houses, Baroda College ; (6) Sanitary fittings in the Kothi Compound ; and (7) Certain additions to the Indumati Mehal and the Makarpura Palace.

Works in progress.—(1) Palace for Shrimant Yuvraj Fatehsinh Rao ; (2) New wing in the L. V. Palace for Her Highness the Maharani ; (3) His Highness' main bungalow on the Malabar Hill at Bombay ; (4) Police Chowkies at the Mahi and Achali ; (5) Two Police Lines and Fozdar's bungalow at Tilakwada ; (6) Resident's bungalow at Dabka ; (7) A school-house for 120 boys at Dhavat in the Choranda Taluka ; (8) Additional works at the Model Farm ; (9) Additional W. C. and Baths in the old Nazarbag Palace ; (10) Marble and wooden casing to iron columns of the Gadi room on the ground and first floor, L. V. Palace ; (11) Rearrangement of plant at the Central Station with a view to provide current for public and street lighting ; (12) Electric lights in the new wing ; (13) Electric Motor fans at the Makarpura and L. V. Palaces ; (14) Additional rooms in the Female Training College at Baroda ; (15) Additional accommodation in the Lunatic Asylum at Baroda ; (16) Government stables ; (17) A corridor between the new wing and the L. V. Palace ; (18) An additional floor to the L. V. Palace Kitchen.

The Electric installations at the L. V. Palace, Makarpura, &c., and the power plant installations for supplying water for

L. V. Palace Service and the Makarpura Gardens were maintained during the year under report in a satisfactory condition.

The introduction of Electric lights on the Chamrajendra-Mandvi Road gives an improved appearance to the thoroughfare at night. The cost of working the electric lights also appears to compare well with that of the old oil lamps. After some experience is gained with these lamps, other roads will be taken in hand as necessity arises and cost permits. Applications are being received from shop-keepers, public libraries and other private people for the supply of the electric current. As soon as the New plant ordered out from Europe arrives it is intended to make arrangements to supply electric current to private consumers both for lighting and small power purposes.

Kadi District.—Works completed.—(1) Sub-Jail at Mehsana, (2) A school for 350 boys at Vijapur.

Works in progress.—(1) Police Thana at Adraj, (2) Police lines at Sametra and Kheralu, (3) Rooms for officers and quarters for the Sub-Jailor at Mehsana, (4) Travellers' Bungalows with out-houses at Harij and Wagdod, (5) Combined Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular School at Mehsana.

Naosari Division.—No important building works were completed. A school for girls at Palsana, school buildings for boys at Borsee, Chonisi and Tavdi, and a Police line at Kathore were in progress at the close of the year under report.

Amreli Division.—The school building at Damnagar and additions to the Vernacular School at Challala and to the cook-room attached at the public offices at Amreli were completed during the year under report, while work on the Girls' School at Amreli and additions to the schools at Damnagar and Dwarka were in progress at its close.

(*c*)—Roads.

Baroda District.—In the City of Baroda the extension of the traffic road at Makarpura was completed. In the Districts, the road from the Nar Railway Station to the town, the bridge over the Mini river at Samlaya, a 20′ span bridge over the Pilol Station road with the road itself, and the road from the old Railway Station to the Race-Course road as also the one from Savli to Samlaya mentioned in the report of the previous year were completed during the year under report. The construction of roads from the Race-Course to Atladra Mahadev and from the Champaner Road Railway Station to British limits was in progress.

Naosari District.—The metalling of the Vyara-Unai road, gravelling the Kaliawadi-Kachiawadi road and the diversion of the Songhad Station yard road were completed during the year under report. Fairweather roads from Gohan to Varpada and from Mogram to Karod as also roads from Chalthan to Palsana, Vyara to Meskatri, Songhad to Vajpur, Chimerbari to Otta and the Baroda portion of the road from Bardoli to Mota were in progress at the close of the year.

No important roads were either completed or in progress during the year under report both in the Kadi and the Amreli Divisions.

Many other roads of less importance were constructed during the year and those already existing were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(*d*)—Wells and Tanks.

Wells and tanks in villages are, under the new arrangement, made by the Local Boards, and irrigation wells are constructed by the cultivators themselves. No wells were therefore constructed by the Public Works Department during the year under report.

(*e*)—Railways.

All the four Railway Systems, *viz.*, (1) the Dabhoi, (2) the Petlad, (3) the Mehsana, and (4) the Vijapur-Kalol-Kadi were open for traffic during the year under report.

The total capital outlay on these lines, together with the percentage thereon of net earnings and their length during the year 1907, are indicated below :—

Railways.	Length in Miles.	Total outlay.	Percentage of net earnings.
		Rs.	
Dabhoi Railway	94·48	25,27,639	10·37
Petlad Railway	21·50	11,20,269	7·88
Mehsana Railway	92·63	34,70,903	6·64
Vijapur-Kalol-Kadi Railway ...	41·37	13,05,631	4·61

The following new lines were under construction during the year under report and made the progress noted against each :—

Naosari District.—A line from Kosamba to Zankawav. Earthwork of the portion already settled and surveyed and survey of the altered alignment were in hand.

Kadi District.—(A) Two extensions of the Mehsana Railway Systems, *viz.*, (1) that from Manund Road to Harij *via* Chansama, miles 21·37, and (2) that from Chansama to Bechraji, miles 16·24, the total extension aggregating 38·11 miles, demand notice. The whole work was completed long before the close of the year under report, but the Government Railway Inspector only recently declared the line fit for being opened for traffic and it has actually been opened to the public on 23rd October 1908. The total estimated cost of both the extensions came to Rs. 16,57,218.

(B) Extension of the Shedhni-Kadarpur Light Railroad to join the Kheralu-Dabhoda Line.—The work is nearly completed.

(C) Extension from Kheralu to Dabhoda.—The earthwork is completed. The construction of culverts and bridges and the laying of rails are in progress.

The following schemes for new lines were under consideration during the year under report :—

(1) An extension of the line from Bahadarpur to Kaletia and on to Sankervav in the Baroda District.

(2) A line from Karvan to Sinore—also in the Baroda District.

This has since been ordered to be taken from Miyagam and the construction of the line has been taken up by the Department, two Railway Engineers having recently been engaged by the State to work under the supervision and direction of the Chief Engineer.

(3) A line from Savli to Makarpura.

(4) A line from Nadiad to Wasad. This it has since been decided to take as under :—

A line from Peej to Nar *via* Waso and Sojitra and thence to Ranu *via* Bhadran, Dharmaj, &c., with a branch line to Kosindra from a convenient point on the Nar-Ranu section.

(5) An extension of the Chansama-Harij Railway to Kathi. Survey of the line has been completed.

(6) A line from Vijapur to Vadnagar ; this it has since been decided to take from Vijapur to Chada.

(7) A line from Kadi to Devsna on the boundary of the Baroda territory.

(8) A line from Bilimora to Unai. The survey is in progress.

(9) A line from Khijadia to Amreli and thence to Challala, Khamba, and further on to Velan Bunder. Survey of the line from Khijadia to Kantala has been completed.

(10) A line from Jamnagar to Adatra. Survey of the line from Charkala to Adatra has been sanctioned.

This is no meagre list, and indicates a considerable amount of railway activity, existing and prospective, which marks an advance upon the programme of past years. The reason is not far to seek.

The progress of trade and industry requires more roads than those being provided year after year, but the difficulty of making them and the greater difficulty of maintaining them in an efficient condition is forcing on the construction of more railways. It is His Highness' intention to expend about 50 lacs over the more important of these works as soon as difficulties surrounding the questions of jurisdiction and the terms and conditions—gradually growing in stringency—on which the lines are to be worked by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company are surmounted. These matters and the growth in length of existing and contemplated lines have rendered it necessary in the course of the current year first to engage a Consulting Engineer and thereafter to employ a full-time Engineer with expert knowledge and considerable experience of railway construction and management. Mr. F. Anderson, lately of the Bengal-Dooars Railway, has recently joined the service of the State and future reports will show the great developments achieved and expected from the great efforts put forward in this direction and guided by his great talents and experience. Enterprising companies are attempting to develop railway construction in the neighbouring country, and the State is prepared to extend to it such support and help as it is within its power to afford. Altogether the prospect is hopeful and encouraging.

(*f*)—Irrigation.

Taking a general view of the work done by the State Irrigation Department upto the close of the year 1907-08 it would appear that works of the sanctioned amount of Rs. 17,20,124 have been executed at a cost of Rs. 15,30,026 and that works of Rs. 13,54,367 are in progress on which Rs. 4,88,557 have been spent. The total expenditure on Irrigation Works

thus comes to Rs. 20,55,585. The Irrigation Programme for the year 1908-09 further shows that there are sanctioned works of Rs. 11,00,000 yet to be started and that various projects costing in aggregate Rs. 4,85,31,044 are either under the consideration of Government or are being matured by the Department. The following table indicates at one view the works completed during the year under report in the several Divisions of the State as also those remaining unfinished at its close together with the progress made in each, &c.

Name of the District.	Works completed during the year.	Works in Progress.		Remarks.
		Name.	Progress.	
Baroda ...	The Bhandaraj Tank in Petlad Taluka.	1. Wadhwana Tank in Dabhoi Taluka.	More than two thirds of the bund was raised to the required level.	
		2. Outlets to Do.	One out of three outlets completed.	
		3. Orsang Irrigation Works.	Extension of the main canal was completed upto Samlaya Tank. Out of 5 Branches two were completed while 3 were nearly so. The work of removing rock from the canal was also finished.	
		4. Widening the Jojwa main canal.	Half the embankment completed.	
		5. Deolia Tank.	The wasteweir and two outlet sluices completed. Of the total length of the dam half has been raised to the required level.	
		6. Sarsi Tank ...	Total length of the dam raised to the sanctioned level. Wasteweir completed.	
		7. Works designed to improve the Haripura, Khokhra and Vyankatpura Tanks and raise the dam of the Mual Tank.	In progress.	Water was supplied for Irrigation from the Haripura and Vyankatpura Tanks.

Name of the District.	Works completed during the year.	Works in Progress.		Remarks.
		Name.	Progress.	
2. Kadi ...	Kadarpur Canal extension work.	1. Khokla Tank.	Construction of new bank and repairs to old waste weir and outlets completed.	
		2. Piplana Tank.	Work nearly completed excepting slopes and re-construction of washed off portion.	-
		3. Nava Tank at Thal.	37,08,000 cubic feet of earthwork done.	
		4. Head works at Mulsan.	Construction of a bund across the western drainage in progress.	
		5. Filling up breaches in Gavna Jamanpur Tank.	Partly carried out.	
		6. Restoration of the Anawada Irrigation work.	Earthwork for portions washed away and pile driving done. Two wells for foundation sunk. Concreting for left abutment and regulator completed.	
		7. The Khoraj Nadoda Tank.	Earthwork finished to a considerable extent.	
		8 The Kadarpur Feeder Channel	Do.	Water for Irrigation was given from the Kadarpur and Vratrasar Tanks.
3. Naosari...	Restoration of 31 old tanks in the Gandevi, Naosari and Palsana Talukas.	Nil. ...		
4. Amreli...	1. Bhimgaja Tank.	1. The Pichwi Tank.	Earthwork of dam completed excepting a portion in gorge No. 5.	Water for Irrigation was given from the Bhimgaja and Mota Ankadia Tanks.
	2. Mota Ankadia Tank.		Metal pitching and masonry work completed in gorge No. 4.	
		2. Mota Bhandaria Tank.	Filling in of puddle trench and construction of earthen bund in progress.	
		3. Gomti Tank...	Filling in of puddle trench and construction of dam embankment in progress.	

The success of Irrigation schemes in the State appears now to be assured and His Highness has therefore been pleased to increase the annual grant for Irrigation to four lacs and to sanction a permanent establishment for supervising the works. For the present, the additional grant of rupees one lac has been utilized towards the restoration of old Irrigation tanks.

The total expenditure incurred during the year in connection with Irrigation and Drainage Works (to be presently mentioned) came to Rs. 3,62,445 and the progress made was, on the whole, satisfactory.

(*g*)—Miscellaneous.

As stated in the previous reports correspondence is still going on with a firm of expert engineers in Europe in regard to the Velan and Beyt Harbour schemes.

Baroda City—(*a*) *Drainage*—The insanitary condition of the city in previous years afforded ample scope for malarial fevers, &c., and the mortality therefrom rose to such a pitch as required the immediate attention of Government. Mr. Baldwin Latham, Expert Drainage Engineer, was accordingly called to Baroda in 1891 to inspect the city and to prepare a scheme for the sewerage thereof. He thereupon submitted a scheme costing Rs. 28,12,000 exclusive of house connections and the city drainage referred to in the previous reports is being carried out according to his designs. The result so far has been so satisfactory that the "Wâdi" ward, which has been drained first and where mortality in former years was comparatively high, returns the lowest figure now as compared with other wards. The work is being pushed on from year to year and Government have ordered that a grant of Rs. 80,000

should be allotted therefor every year from Municipal funds. One supervisor, one sub-overseer and a draftsman are exclusively maintained for the work. The total amount sanctioned up to the end of 1907-08 was Rs. 6,49,000 and that actually spent, Rs. 5,12,000.

As stated in the previous report two sections of the city drainage work and a portion of the third were done up to the end of the year 1905-06. The remaining portion of the third was taken in hand during the year 1906-07, and the portion from Madan Zampa to Lehripura, Lehripura to Panigate and Panigate to Hathia Khad was completed with the exception of house connections and a portion of about 700 feet in length in Mahomedwadi. The third section was completed during the year under retrospect.

With a view to bring the third section into working order, the fourth section was taken up during the year under report and nearly 199 ft. of *B* main line was finished and almost the whole of the Burhanpura and Madan Zampa Branch Lines were completed. About 700 house connections were also finished. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 88,616.

The sewage water given for cultivation during the year under report brought in a revenue of Rs. 893.

The completed portion of the drainage was maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(*b*) *Water Works.*—With a view to facilitate water supply to the Mills and the surrounding Bungalows the 4″ main was replaced by 9″ one on the road from the Public Park to Padra Road, and by a 6″ one on the Race Course Road. On the south from the Railway bridge upto the Pipe testing yard, a line of 6″ main was laid in place of 3″ and 4″ ones.

(*h*)—Expenditure of the Department.

The expenditure of the Department during the last two years is shown below :—

Nature of Work.	Expenditure in 1906-07.	Expenditure in 1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Original Works	8,85,866	10,61,890
Repairs	3,59,841	3,53,518
Establishment	2,10,531	2,27,397
Tools and Plant	16,689	16,478
Petty Revenue Public Works ...	1,440	272
Petty Military Public Works ...	32,140	38,207
Famine Relief Works	2,177	1,922
Refund of revenue	414	30
Total ...	15,09,098	16,99,714

There is an increase under the head "Original Works" which is attributable to large works such as the L. V. Palace new wing, Prince Fatteĥsinhrao's Palace, &c., having been undertaken during the year under report.

The following table shows the expenditure incurred in each Division during the year under report as compared with that in the previous year :—

Divisions.	Expenditure in 1906-07.	Expenditure in 1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda City Division	6,15,581	7,12,128
Baroda District	2,06,411	1,31,094
Naosari Division	1,64,342	78,864
Kadi Division	73,505	1,37,696
Amreli Division	1,51,459	2,98,893
Garden Division	2,97,800	3,41,039
Total ...	15,09,098	16,99,714

The increase in expenditure in the City and Garden Divisions was due to larger outlay during the year on works mostly connected with the Palaces, that in Amreli was attributable to valuation adjustments of certain roads in Okhamandal executed for purposes of relief and charged under the Famine head in previous years, whereas that in the Kadi Division was the result of almost all sanctioned works having been executed without any grant being allowed to lapse, as in the previous year. The decrease in the Baroda and Naosari Divisions was mainly ascribable to most of the building works having been sanctioned late in the year and to the slow progress of work owing to the difficulty in carrying materials to the spot.

Besides the expenditure of Rs. 16,99,714 a sum of Rs. 9,40,678 was expended on contribution and other works charged under suspense heads. Thus the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 26,40,392. Deducting therefrom the sum of Rs. 1,86,045 on account of valuation adjustments of the previous years, there remains a balance of Rs. 24,54,347, which may safely be taken as the total expenditure on works executed by the P. W. Department, inclusive of establishment amounting to Rs. 2,27,397. The ratio of the cost of establishment to the total outlay was 10·2 as against 12·7 in the previous year.

It is but due to the energetic and devoted Head of the Department and his subordinates that the good work done by them should be recognised and noted.

XI—POLICE.

(*a*)—Personnel.

Mr. Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai, B.A., LL. B., continued as Head of the Department throughout the year and discharged his duties with commendable ability and energy.

(*b*)—Constitution of the Forces.

The sanctioned strength, excluding non-effectives, was 4,870 against 4,878 in the preceding year and was distributed as follows :—

District.	Sanctioned strength excluding non-effectives.	Jail, Treasury Guards and other duties.	Vacancies.	Number engaged in the prevention and detection of crimes.
Baroda	2,028	906	116	1,006
Kadi	1,519	419	68	1,032
Naosari	763	267	69	427
Amreli	560	212	18	330
Total ...	4,870	1,804	271	2,795

This shows that 57·39 per cent. of the whole force was employed on regular police duty, *viz.*, the prevention and detection of crime. Last year the percentage was 56·19. Vacancies which numbered 358 in the preceding year have gone down to 271 during the year under report.

Comparing the number of policemen employed on regular police duty with the area and the population of the Raj, it is found that there was on an average one policeman for an area of 2·90 square miles and for every group of 698 men.

Of the whole force 2,546 were Hindus, 2,036 Mahommedans and 17 of other religions.

2,781 men and officers, *i. e.*, 60·47 per cent. of the whole force excluding non-effectives and vacancies, were able to read and write. The percentage in the preceding year was 64·45. Four officers and men passed the examination in connection with the Ambulance Association.

There were 17 Judicial and 1,060 Departmental punishments against 24 and 1,486 respectively in the preceding year. The decrease in these punishments was due to a decrease in petty faults for which such punishments are generally awarded. On the other hand, 174 officers and men received money-rewards against 152 in the preceding year.

The expenditure incurred on the police during the year under report and the one preceding it is given below :—

Items of Expenditure.	1907-08.	1906-07.
	Rs.	Rs.
Pay and allowance	6,56,524	6,11,727
Dress, arms and accoutrements	36,444	33,667
Miscellaneous charges	38,612	31,785
Total ..	7,31,580	6,77,179

These figures show that there is an increase of Rs. 54,401. It is mainly due to (1) the scarcity allowance of one rupee per month given to all servants drawing Rs. 10 and under for six months, (2) the revision of the Fojdar's grade, (3) the purchase of new swords and belts for the use of the mounted police, and (4) the supplying of chairs, tables and clocks to all the Cutcheries and Thanas.

(c)—Statistics.

Offences against Person and Property.—The number of cases reported to the police during the year was 4,428 against 3,736 in the preceding year and 4,256 in the year before. The increase of 692 cases was mainly due to the high prices of food stuffs which drove people to commit petty offences.

The following table furnishes particulars with regard to offences against person and property in the four Districts of the State for the year under report as compared with those of the preceding year :—

Offences.	Baroda.		Kadi.		Naosari.		Amreli.		Total.	
	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.
Murder	12	27	19	15	6	4	1	2	38	48
Culpable homicide ..	7	6	12	12	7	4	5	1	31	23
Grievous hurt	48	39	78	52	12	31	17	12	155	134
Rape	8	3	5	4	...	4	2	4	15	15
Theft	472	448	668	470	146	125	125	114	1,411	1,157
Theft with house-breaking	329	310	226	189	41	37	52	37	651	573
Robbery	36	32	54	25	9	10	12	9	111	76
Dacoity...	6	8	9	8	1	2	...	...	16	18
Receiving stolen property	13	13	9	7	2	...	...	2	24	22
Criminal breach of trust	62	60	42	31	15	19	8	10	127	120
Mischief	121	102	5	7	7	6	3	5	136	120
Miscellaneous	176	160	759	481	75	74	86	61	1,093	776
Total ...	1,290	1,208	1,886	1,301	321	316	311	257	3,808	3,082

Offences against person.—There has been an increase in culpable homicide and grievous hurt during the year under report as compared with the previous year and a decrease in murder. The increase in violent crimes should be carefully watched by the Department. Taking the figures for murder, culpable homicide and grievous hurt, there were only 224 cases against 205 in the preceding year in a State having more than three thousand villages.

Offences against property.—There has been an increase in almost all the offences against property and it is due to a larger number of petty offences committed by the people owing to high prices of food-stuffs as shown above.

The table given below furnishes particulars about certain important offences besides those mentioned above and about pettier ones which are too few to be separately specified and could conveniently be classed under one heading, *viz.*, Miscellaneous offences :—

Nature of offences.	Baroda.		Kadi.		Naosari.		Amreli.		Total.	
	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1906-07.
Rioting	16	28	47	26	14	26	7	3	84	83
Offences against Coinage...	2	2	3	2	1	1	2	1	6	6
„ „ Justice...	16	10	5	4	2	3	13	14	36	31
„ „ Marriage	31	33	12	6	5	8	15	16	63	63
Miscellaneous	183	213	181	182	41	39	26	37	431	471
Total ...	248	286	247	220	62	77	63	71	620	654

It will appear from the above that the number of offences under the first heading has remained almost stationary, while in the last class (Miscellaneous) there is a small decrease. The proportion of crime to the Police employed on the prevention

and detection of crimes in the State was 1·58 of cognizable offence to each policeman. The proportion of crime to population was 1 offence to every group of 697 men. The corresponding figures in the preceding year were 1·36 and 523.

Disposal of Cases.—In addition to 4,428 cases reported during the year, there were 752 cases pending from the preceding year. Of these 487 were withdrawn by Rajinamas and 1,209 ordered by Magistrates to be struck off as false. The number left for Police inquiry was therefore 3,484. Of these 2,472 or 70·95 per cent. were committed to Magistrates, 410 or 11·77 per cent. remained undetected, and 602 or 17·28 per cent. were pending inquiry at the end of the year. The corresponding percentages in the last year were 70·84, 12·16 and 17.

There is an increase in the number of false cases. As suggested in the last year's report, measures should be taken to check it.

The subjoined table shows the disposal of cases committed for trial :—

Year.	Resulted in acquittal.	Withdrawn by Rajinamas.	Resulted in conviction.	Remained pending at the end of the year.	Total number of cases committed for trial.	Percentage of convictions to cases sent to Magistrates excluding cases withdrawn and pending.
1907-08 ...	821	135	1,275	241	2,472	60·83
1906-07 ...	544	102	1,177	244	2,067	68·39

The reduction in the percentage of convictions is due to the difficulty of establishing guilt in the case of petty thefts which were induced by the unfavourable character of the seasons. In all serious offences, however, the percentage of convictions is higher than in the preceding year.

The number of persons arrested during the year, together with those left under Police enquiry last year, was 5,597, of whom 4,311 or 77·02 per cent. were sent up for trial. Last year the percentage was 79·58. Details about the disposal of persons for the years 1907-08 and 1906-07 are given below:—

Year.	Released in cases withdrawn.	Died after commencement of trial.	Escaped.	Pending trial at the end of the year.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Percentage of those convicted after deducting the figures in columns 2, 3, 4 & 5.
1907-08	266	4	2	391	1,802	1,846	49·40
1906-07	220	1	1	513	1,636	1,324	55·27

There is a reduction of 6 per cent. in convictions. The fact demands careful inquiry, and it is trusted better results will be shown next year.

Kolis, Bhils and Vaghris form as usual the majority of criminals. As shown in the last year's report, attempts are being made to reclaim them from their thieving tendencies by inducing them to take to agriculture and other honest means of livelihood.

The following table furnishes details with regard to property for the years 1907-08 and 1906-07 :—

Year.	Cases in which property was alleged to have been stolen.	Alleged value of the stolen property.	Cases in which property was recovered.	Value of property recovered.	Percentage of property recovered to property stolen.	Percentage of cases in which property was recovered to those in which it was stolen.
		Rs.		Rs.		
1907-08 ...	1,482	1,11,509	875	54,698	49·05	59·04
1906-07 ...	1,180	93,887	742	42,488	43·23	62·88

There is a slight increase of about 4 per cent. in the recovery of property stolen, which hardly calls for any remarks.

The general results of Police administration during the last two years are summed up in the following table :—

Year.	Percentage of conviction to cases decided by Magistrates.	Percentage of persons convicted to persons committed.	Percentage of property recovered to property stolen.
1907-08 ...	60·83	49·40	49·05
1906-07 ...	68·39	55·27	45·23

These figures, having been commented upon above, call for no further remarks.

(*d*)—Reforms.

The following are the principal reforms introduced during the year under report :—

(1) With a view to lighten work and afford adequate clerical help where necessary, additional powers have been given to the Shirastedars of Police Naib Subhas in the disposal of routine papers and clerks have replaced Head Constables in correspondence and writing work in the Sar Fojdars' Offices.

(2) The Examination Rules of the Department have been revised and reframed and the registration of offences tried by Village Mukhis, Inamdars, Gramya Panchayats, &c., has been ensured and made systematic.

(3) The pay of the last grade of Constables in all the Prants has been raised from Rs. 7 to 8.

(4) A party of Water Police for Okhamandal was sanctioned and has already begun to work.

(5) A library of useful Police works has been opened in the Police Commissioner's Office so that books can be made available for perusal to whoever wants them ; and

(6) Finally the men are encouraged to spend their spare time profitably in making gardens near their Thanas and Chowkies.

XII.—JAILS.

(*a*)—The Central, District and Subordinate Jails.

During the year under report Mr. Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai continued to be in charge of the Department.

The number of Jails and Lock-ups was the same as in the preceding year, *viz.*, 1 Central Jail, 4 District Jails, 1 Subordinate Jail and 41 Lock-ups.

The total number of persons received in all the Jails during the year under report was 3,890 against 3,680 in the preceding year. The increase is due to an increase in petty crimes owing to the high prices of grains. The total daily average in all the Jails was 761 against 785 in the preceding year.

Of the total number of convicts admitted in Jails, 88·52 per cent. were Hindus, 11·02 per cent. Mahomedans and ·46 of other religions. The ages between 16 and 40 contributed the largest number, as in the preceding year. 11·84 per cent. of the convicts knew how to read and write. As usual agriculturists and labourers and private servants formed the largest portion of these convicts.

The offences which led to the greatest number of convictions were thefts and thefts with house-breaking. As in the preceding year, most of the sentences were for periods ranging between one month and six months.

The total expenditure for the year under report was Rs. 89,849-8-8 against Rs. 74,917-4-3 in the preceding year. The increase is due to very high prices of food-stuffs and a fair number of useful but minor structural works and improvements for the Central Jail. It is also due to the scarcity allowance of Re. 1 given to those whose pay was Rs. 10 and under.

The total earnings from convict labour in all the Jails were Rs. 19,794-9-0 against Rs. 19,502-4-10.

The average annual cost per prisoner came to Rs. 118-1-1 against Rs. 95-7-0 in the preceding year.

The increase in the cost has been explained above.

(*b*)—Reforms.

One important reform introduced in the Jail calls for special mention.

Experience has shown that the period intervening between the ages of 16 and 21 is one during which a proper treatment of criminals may effect an improvement in them and win them over from their criminal tendency. In Great Britain, the prison at Borstal is specially set apart for the reception and detention of male criminals of these ages and special treatment is given them under what is called the Borstal System, and this system was introduced into our Central Jail in the year under report. Prisoners of this class are divided into 3 grades with due reference to their character and antecedents and are designated Penal, Ordinary and Special respectively. The last grade has special privileges attached to it. On admission a prisoner is placed in the 2nd or ordinary grade. He can obtain promotion to the 3rd or special grade by industry and good conduct. This promotion may be postponed for idleness and misconduct or he may be removed to the Penal grade. Each grade wears a distinctive dress. They are all employed conjointly in workshop or outdoor work such as farming, &c., and are specially instructed in useful trades and industries so as to fit them to earn their livelihood on release. Small sums are credited to the account of those who show special zeal, industry and good conduct and the amount which is not to exceed Rs. 10 is given to them as a gratuity on release. At a reasonable time before the discharge of any prisoner of this class the Jail Superintendent is to enquire whether he has any relations or friends who can give him honest employment. If there is nobody to take care of him, the Superintendent and the

Inspector-General of Prisons use their good offices to procure him employment. After release the behaviour of the young man is quietly watched and efforts are made to keep him in the right path.

Besides this, there are no reforms of special importance to note, but a few matters of minor importance are not quite devoid of interest.

These are :—

(1) The articles of clothing to be supplied to each Jail and lock-ups have been fixed, and

(2) The scale of Bhatta to prisoners in the Central Jail has been revised.

(3) And some minor new industries, &c., have been introduced.

XIII—MEDICAL.

(*a*)—Organization of the Department.

Khan Bahadur Shamshudin J. Sulemani, L. M., continued to hold the post of the Chief Medical Officer and performed his duties satisfactorily. Mr. Sorabji F. Gazdar, L. M. & S., acted for him from 3rd June to 12th July 1908.

The strength of the Department remained the same as in the previous year.

The total number of institutions that existed at the end of the year was 55, the same as in the foregoing year. Three temporary dispensaries were opened at Atarsumbha, Vajpur and Vankal.

(*b*)—Details of Patients treated at the Several Medical Institutions.

The total number of patients who received medical aid during the year under report was 3,75,985 against 3,74,873 in the preceding year, indicating an increase of 1,112 which does not call for any remarks. Out of the total number treated, 4,957 were in-door patients and 3,71,028 out-door patients, against 5,536 and 3,69,337 respectively in the previous year.

The average daily attendance of in-door patients was 262·5, and that of out-door ones was 3,998·1, against 285·2 and 4,144 respectively in the previous year.

The subjoined table shews the percentage of patients to the total treated in each District, and the ratio of patients per mille of population:—

Name of District.	Percentage of patients to the total treated.	Ratio of patients per mille of population.
Baroda including the City of Baroda	47·3	2·5
Kadi District	27·7	1·2
Amreli „	11·8	2·4
Naosari „	13·2	1·6

From this, it will be seen that Baroda has the highest percentage and that the Kadi and Naosari Districts were healthier than the others.

With regard to sexes, out of the total number of patients treated, 1,78,006 were males, 70,687 females and 1,27,292 children as compared with 1,84,207, 70,239 and 1,20,427 respectively in the previous year, showing 47·4, 18·8 and 33·8 as their respective percentages against 49·1, 18·8 and 32·1 in the preceding year.

The total number of surgical operations performed in all the Institutions was 12,133 against 10,773 in the foregoing year, indicating an increase of 1,360. Of these, 1,564 were major, and 10,569 were minor operations. As important among the former, the following may be specially mentioned:—

Cæsarian section,
Pan hysterotomy,
Extraction of cataracts,
Removal of stone from the bladder by cutting and by crushing,
Operations for radical cure of Hernia,
Rhinoplasty,
Piles,
Amputations, &c.

(c)—Prevailing Diseases.

The most common diseases for which patients were treated at the Civil and Military Hospitals and Dispensaries during the last two years are noted below :—

Name of Disease.	Number of Patients.	
	1906-07.	1907-08.
Malarial fever	75,895	57,648
Worms...	9,643	9,309
Dysentery	4,859	4,941
Diarrhœa	5,695	6,059
Venereal diseases	6,626	5,246
Rheumatic Affections	9,430	9,416
Diseases of the Nervous System	7,520	8,978
„ „ Eye	31,741	42,382
„ „ Skin	32,249	38,406
„ „ Ear	18,239	18,310
„ „ Lungs	802	1,374
Other diseases of the Respiratory System ...	16,016	16,341

There is a notable decrease in the number of cases treated for Malarial Fever, whereas there is an increase in the case of diseases of the Eye, Skin, the Nervous and Respiratory Systems, Diarrhœa and Dysentery. The decrease in the former case is attributable to the greater prevalence of the disease in 1906-07, consequent on abnormal rainfall, and in the case of the latter, the increase in the first two is due to the uncleanliness of the lower classes of people and the contagious nature of the diseases.

The number of plague cases and deaths during the year was 9,521 and 6,427 against 19,938 and 14,618 respectively in the previous year, being less than one-half. The percentage of deaths to attacks was 68·5 against 73·3 in the year 1906-07. The total number of towns and villages affected was 261 against 450 in the year preceding. At 57 places, the disease was of a virulent type but at other places, it was of a mild nature. The measures of relief adopted in the previous years were, also, continued during the year under retrospect. Inoculation with Anti-plague vaccine was also resorted to but the measure was not received favorably by the people as mentioned elsewhere in the report.

Cholera did not prevail in any parts of the Raj.

(*d*)—Chemical Laboratory and Medical Stores.

There were 42 medico-legal cases involving a separate analysis of 122 articles, and 9 miscellaneous cases involving an analysis of 16 articles. 68 samples of water from different places as also samples of kerosene, sulphuric acid, naphtha, rectified spirit, stone, silica powder and earth were examined and analysed.

Among the medico-legal cases, there were 16 of suspected human-poisoning, 2 of cattle-poisoning, 32 of blood stains and 1 of human bones for identification. Among cases of suspected human poisoning, meconic acid and morphia were detected in 2, Dhatura seeds in 1 and sulphuric acid in 1. Arsenious oxide was detected in both the cases of cattle-poisoning. Small fees were charged for examining the articles.

At the beginning of the year under report, the stock of medicines, &c., at the Medical Stores Depôt was of the value of Rs. 40,047. Medicines, instruments and appliances worth Rs. 34,270 were purchased during the year against Rs. 34,937 in the foregoing year.

The expenditure on account of the Chemical Laboratory and Medical Stores Depôt came to Rs. 1,019 and Rs. 7,635 respectively against Rs. 1,986 and Rs. 8,650 in the previous year. The decrease is mainly attributable to the difference in the salaries of Messrs. Gazdar and Dave who were successively in charge of these institutions.

(*e*)—Lunatic Asylum.

The total number of lunatics treated during the year was 32 against 28 in the previous year. Of these, 26 were males, and 6 females. Out of them, 2 were discharged cured, 2 relieved, 1 died, 1 escaped, 2 were transferred to the Central Jail for want of accommodation and 24 remained under treatment at the close of the year.

The total expenditure of the Institution was Rs. 5,252 against Rs. 3,627 in the previous year and the annual cost per lunatic was approximately Rs. 164. The increase in expenditure is mainly attributable to the increased number of diets and to the increased cost thereof as also to the grant of special allowances to some members of the establishment.

(*f*)—Miscellaneous.

Ambulance Classes.—During the year there was one Ambulance Class at the Countess of Dufferin Hospital. Medical Officers and Hospital Assistants holding independent charge of Hospitals and Dispensaries also delivered lectures on Ambulance at their respective stations. 37 candidates appeared at the examination at Baroda and of them, 33 were successful.

Home Hygiene.—Lectures on Home Hygiene were delivered as before, but very few people attended them.

Obstetric Cases.—The number of obstetric cases attended to by the Midwife in the City of Baroda was 158 against 111 in the previous year, showing an increase of 47. Of these,

19 were of abnormal labour. The total expenditure on account of pay of the Midwife and the establishment under her was Rs. 1,132 against Rs. 1,227 in the preceding year.

Leper Asylum.—The Leper Asylum at Ansuya had 198 inmates during the year against 176 in 1906-07. Most of them suffered from tubercular leprosy and the rest from other varieties of it. The cost of the institution during the year came to Rs. 9,081.

Expenditure.—The total expenses of the Department during the year under report amounted to Rs. 1,96,822 against Rs. 1,94,956 of the previous year. The increase was mainly attributable to the opening of three temporary dispensaries.

Of the above sum, Rs. 8,639 were obtained from the revenues of the Amla village towards the maintenance of the Leper Asylum at Ansuya ; Rs. 8,828 were disbursed by the Military Department for the Military Hospitals and Dispensaries; Rs. 8,098 were paid by the self-governing Municipalities for maintaining the Medical Institutions of their respective towns, and Rs. 6,844 were received from the Becharaji Temple Funds for maintaining the Dispensaries at Mehsana, Visnagar, Kheralu and Becharaji. Excluding these contributions, the expenditure of the Department was Rs. 1,64,413 against Rs. 1,61,393 in the previous year as detailed below :—

Items.	1906-07.	1907-08.
	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment	1,03,925	1,02,493
Contingencies	26,196	29,291
Medicines and instruments ...	31,272	32,629
Total ...	1,61,393	1,64,413

The total amount received on account of charges for medicines prescribed for patients not attending Hospitals or Dispensaries came to Rs. 1,802 against Rs. 1,874 in the preceding year.

The average cost per patient, both in-door and out-door was Re. 0-8-4 and that per diet was Re. 0-3-3 against Re. 0-8-3 and Re. 0-2-3 in 1906-07.

General.—As stated in the previous report, Mr. Sumant B. Mehta was sent during the year under report to Dehra Dun to receive training in the practical working of the X Ray Apparatus. After finishing the course, he appeared at the prescribed examination the result of which is not yet reported. He was also deputed to Bombay and Poona to visit the various Medical Institutions there, and suggest improvements in similar ones in the State. He has, on his return, submitted a detailed report, specifying the improvements necessary to bring the Countess of Dufferin Hospital to the general level of neatness, comfort and efficiency. Several of the suggestions made have been approved and sanctioned and the rest are receiving consideration. Four Medical Officers were likewise sent to Bombay to receive practical training in Anti-Plague Inoculation.

With the object of effecting such improvements in the Countess of Dufferin Hospital as would make it an up-to-date and model Medical Institution, a loan of the services of their Sanitary Engineer was applied for from the Government of Bombay. The request was complied with and the suggestions for improvement made by the Engineer, Mr. M. Visvesvaraya, M. I. C. E., involving an expenditure of Rs. 2,70,746, were under the consideration of Government. Since the close of the year, orders have been passed approving the suggestions, and sanctioning expenditure first for the more urgent ones, and reserving the rest for subsequent years.

As in the previous year, a conference of the Civil Surgeons of the State was held during the year under report at Baroda and several suggestions made by them were approved and carried out.

The Chief Medical Officer inspected 34 Medical Institutions in the year under report, and was generally satisfied with the work of the Medical Officers and subordinates. He makes special mention of the work of Messrs. Balabhai Maganlal, Sumant B Mehta, R. S. Karnard and Lady Doctor Miss Emma Smith.

XIV.—FAMINE RELIEF.

The year under report was again one of scarcity of rain. The monsoon which commenced with fairly good promise exhausted itself prematurely, and the last week of August and the whole of September were rainless. The total quantity of rain gauged did not, therefore, fall much below the average that could be expected in this precarious cycle of uncertain seasons ; though in some parts of the Raj even the quantity of rain received was a source of anxiety. It was, however, more the premature stoppage of the rains than any shortage that was responsible for the partial failure of the crops.

The effects on the food crops was deplorable. Bajri yielded but a poor harvest; and the rice crops which needed the later rains failed entirely. Cotton was fairly good and became the sole stay and support of the despairing Ryot. Cultivators with wells raised good winter crops of wheat, castor-seed and gram, but rape-seed and juvari shared the fate of the monsoon crops owing to deficient moisture and the hardening of the soil. Cultivators without the advantage of wells had to resort to manual labour and work as operatives in the Mills and Factories in the neighbouring towns. The prices of food-stuffs rose to an abnormal pitch and continued thereat throughout the year causing even greater anxiety than in the great famine of 1900, for even the middle classes were affected. Government generously sanctioned a scarcity allowance of one rupee per month to all servants drawing Rs. 10 and under. It absorbed Rs. 1,28,234.

The land revenues had, as already mentioned in the chapter on Revenue, to be suspened in several parts of the Raj. The land revenue demand and the amounts of suspension, remission and actual realization during the year under report having already been specified, it is not necessary to repeat them here.

Suffice it to state that upwards of 40 per cent. of the land revenues were held back in Amreli, 30 per cent. in the Kadi District, and 10 per cent. in the Baroda Division. Naosari received no such indulgence as it did not need any.

One-fifth of the entire land revenues had thus to be foregone and suspended for the whole Raj.

The Tagavi loans were the backbone of the relief operations during the year. As shown in the chapter on Revenue Rs. 3,61,147 were advanced to the cultivators for purchasing bullocks, seeds, manure and grass, &c., over and above a special grant of Rs. 1,25,988 for sinking and repairing wells. These advances of Tagavi loans enabled the cultivators to a great extent to raise winter crops by irrigation. The Kadarpur, Anawada and Orsang Irrigation works afforded appreciable protection to the Rabi crops and were much appreciated and largely availed of by the people. Over 35,000 bighas were watered from the Kadarpur Canal and an equal number from the Orsang. The Vatrasar tank and the Anawada canal afforded protection to over a thousand bighas.

The high wages obtaining in the market prevented a large number of people from resorting to relief works. Government generously sanctioned a sum of over 4 lakhs of rupees for relief works ; but the relief works, though opened in time, failed to attract any large number of labourers. The following table gives the results of the relief operations :—

Name of the District.	Amount sanctioned for Relief Works.	Number of average daily units.	Amount spent on Relief Works.
	Rs.		Rs.
Baroda	66,000	94	2,066
Kadi	1,33,000	75	1,292
Naosari	1,20,000	67	13,360
Amreli	1,20,000	66	225
Total ...	4,39,000	302	16,943

These figures show that the general distress prevailing in the Districts could not have been severe. With high wages and liberal Tagavi advances, a large portion of the Ryots that ordinarily swell the numbers on relief works held back. Besides the above amount Rs. 1,620 were spent from the Local Board's funds on minor village works, the management of which was entrusted to the several Taluka Punchayets.

There was some scarcity of water in the Naosari Division, but the munificent gift of 5¼ lacs of rupees for the sinking of drinking water wells made by the Maharaja at the time of the Silver Jubilee was a great help to the Ryots, and a large number of such wells was taken in hand during the year under report.

The following table gives the total expenditure incurred for the relief of distress during the year :—

Items.	Expenditure.
	Rs.
Establishment	2,022
Relief Works	16,944
Tagavi Loans	3,61,147
Scarcity Allowance	1,28,234
Total ...	5,08,347

Rao Bahadur Manubhai N. Mehta, the Famine Commissioner, travelled over the affected talukas for about three months and rendered effectual help on the spot. He was not new to this work. He had already obtained valuable experience during the previous scarcity, and had distinguished himself by his energy, powers of organization and effective supervision, and he was found equally energetic and vigilant on this occasion too, for which thanks are due to him.

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